CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

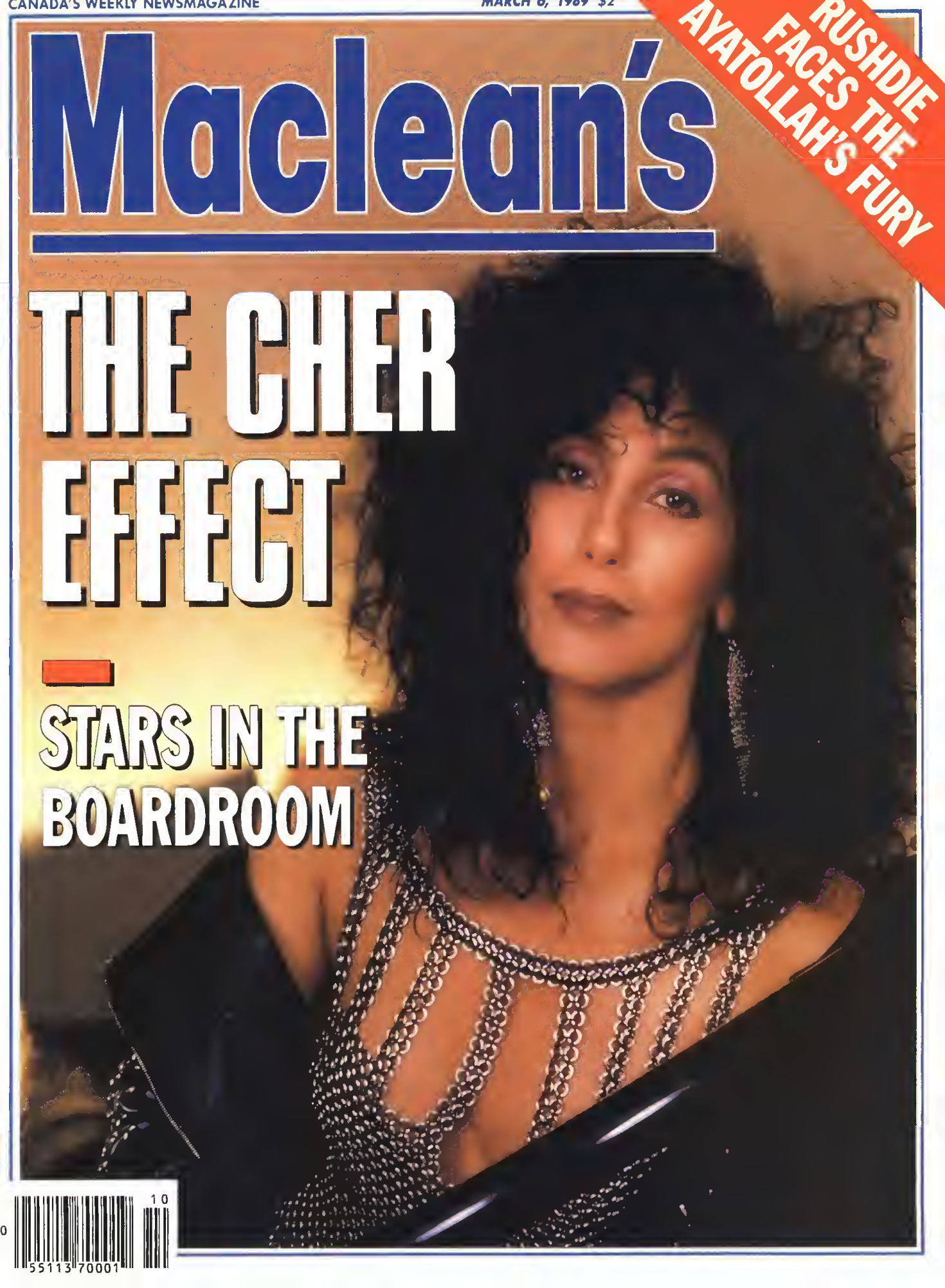
MARCH 6, 1989 $2

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RUSHDIE FACES THE AYATOLLAH'S FURY

THE CHER EFFECT

STARS IN THE BOARDROOM



10

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COVER PHOTO BY ANTHONY BARBOZA/BLACKIMAGES



COVER

THE CHER EFFECT

The 42-year-old black-haired beauty who began her career in the mid-1960s as part of the pop-singing duo Sonny and Cher has emerged as probably the most fascinating movie star of her generation. Indeed, during her career, Cher has managed to be both boldly shocking and ultimately enigmatic. Now she is bringing the same aggressive attitude to marketing her new perfume — 38

CANADA

THE LEADERS-IN-WAITING

Liberal Leader John Turner has declined to say whether he wants to stay on to fight the next federal election. But if he tries to, many senior Liberals predict that a party leadership review would depose him before then. Meanwhile, potential candidates for Turner's job are lining up supporters. — 10



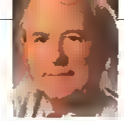


WORLD

DEADLY DEFIANCE

Canada was among 16 countries that withdrew representatives from Iran last week to underline their opposition to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's order to kill British author Salman Rushdie for allegedly blaspheming against Islam in his novel The Satanic Verses. *But Khomeini reiterated his threats.* — 18

Canadian second-class mail registration number 1260



A Vicious Mania

Americans and Canadians last week were treated to another exercise in a dangerous kind of political hypocrisy that, if not checked, threatens to undermine the basic trust on which democracies are built. In Washington, the Senate Armed Services Committee rejected President George Bush's nomination of John Tower for defence secretary on the basis of vague, unsubstantiated criticisms of how he conducted his personal life. John Tower was not a candidate for the papacy. He was a candidate for a civil position in the United States and he should not have fallen victim to the mania—now raging through the media and among self-righteous politicians—for ruthlessly scrutinizing the very personal ethics of men and women with the courage to stand for public office.

Over the many weeks when congressmen and the media repeated unfounded slurs on Tower's character, there was not a hint of criticism of his conduct as a highly respected senator from Texas from 1961 to 1985. Nor were there any substantial attacks on his behavior as a consultant to the defence industry since 1986 nor on his extensive knowledge of defence issues generally. No, the criticisms centred on the fact that Tower *might* have had a drinking problem in the 1970s and that he *may* be what several senators referred to as a "womanizer," although he has been divorced since 1987. Those are the kinds of accusations that could be levelled at a vast majority of leading candidates for public service. But looked at in isolation, personal ethics should be irrelevant to such choices. Only if they are directly related to his current capacity to serve should they even be considered. Even if the full Senate should approve Tower's nomination, a decent man's reputation has been brutally destroyed for no reason other than mindless acquiescence in a passing, and vicious, fad.



The Capitol building vague, unsubstantiated criticisms about drinking and womanizing

Kevin Doyle

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LETTERS

WORKING FOR A LIVING

Maclean's comment that with a salary of $36,000 Mikhail Gorbachev might not be able to afford his wife's penchant for $2,300 earrings struck me badly ("High living on a budget," Opening Notes, Feb. 13). Unlike traditional American first ladies, or even Mila Mulroney, Raisa Gorbachev has her own job—she's a university professor—and perhaps she can pay for her own jewelry.

Thomas Haythornthwaite,
Orleans, Ont.

DIALOGUE ON THE DEBATE

Not only does Philippe Rushton have a right to speak his theories (misguided or otherwise) as a professional he has an obligation ("Race and behavior," Science, Feb. 13). The most valuable lesson the universities can leave us with is that all social truths are arrived at through dialogue, through the opposition of ideas. If Rushton's detractors had their censorious way, they would close the debate. That ideas or theories are dangerous is absurd. It is their suppression that poses the greatest risk.

John Hewak,
Hamilton

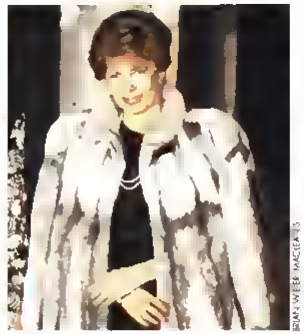
Geneticists David Suzuki and Joseph Cummins pan Rushton's scientific study and subsequent theories with these notable scientific words: dangerous, lousy, ridiculous and totally bizarre. Rather than using the tried and true scientific method to refute this psychologist-theorist, our two geneticists make deprecating comments.

William G. Gardner,
Campbell River, B.C.

EARNING SOCIETY'S TRUST

Academic freedom is a privilege vital to scholars who explore radical ideas at the edge of human thought. But there is a reciprocal responsibility—the academic community must ensure that the quality of scholarship being protected deserves society's trust. Allan Fotheringham should not rely on 30-second newsclips for the substance of a 1½-hour debate ("Tasting the passing favorite flavors," Feb. 20). Philippe Rushton's work doesn't even qualify as *bad* science. That type of work is not scientifically legitimate, as leading geneticists have stated formally since 1970. Rushton's persistence can only suggest that he is uninformed or deliberately mischievous. It is a dereliction of responsibility by academics and Fotheringham alike to defend bad scholarship under the rubric of academic freedom.

David Suzuki,
Vancouver



BRIAN WEED/MACLEAN'S

Gorbachev, nontraditional first lady

A WRONGFUL ATTACK

The claim that I am "merely following the Irving line" in saying that *The Telegraph-Journal* and *The Evening Times-Globe* are entirely independent is total rot ("The tough tycoons," Cover, Feb. 6). The newspapers' editorial policy and news coverage are free from all outside influence and dictated by one consideration—the interests of the people of New Brunswick. The attack on my professional integrity, based on anonymous sources, is just plain wrong. It's also implicitly an insult to the many first-rate journalists here, who would not remain if the papers weren't independent of all outside interests. I expected better. But then I didn't expect you would spell my name wrong, either.

Paul Willcocks
Publisher,
The Telegraph-Journal,
The Evening Times-Globe,
Saint John, N.B.

HEADS OF STATE

In your Feb. 6 issue, President George Bush and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney are referred to as the "two heads of state" ("In Reagan's footsteps," Canada). Regardless of how often this ridiculous error appears, the Prime Minister is *not* the head of state.

John McCormick,
San Josef, B.C.

Letters are edited and may be condensed. Writers should supply name, address and telephone number. Mail correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, Maclean's magazine, Maclean Hunter Bldg., 777 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5W 1A7

PASSAGES



PETER CARTER

DIED: J. King Gordon, 86, one of the authors of the 1933 Regina Manifesto—the blueprint for social and economic reform which inspired the CCF, and later the NDP—and 1960 Pearson Peace Medal winner; of a massive stroke, in an Ottawa hospital near his home. The son of Rev. **Charles William Gordon**, best-known by his pseudonym **Ralph Connor**—one of Canada's most prominent early 20th-century novelists—Gordon was dismissed from his teaching position at Montreal's United Theological College in 1934 for his socialist views. In 1944, he became managing editor of the New York City-based liberal magazine *The Nation*, which he left in 1947 to work in a series of jobs at the UN until 1962.

SENTENCED: Internationally renowned Czechoslovak playwright **Vaclav Havel**, 52, to nine months in prison for meeting illegal protests and obstructing police, by a criminal court judge in Prague. Havel, a founding member of the human rights monitoring group Charter 77, was convicted after broadcasting public appeals to participate in a government-banned rally.

DIED: Abel Wolman, 96, who helped make drinking water safe for millions of people around the world, at his Baltimore home. In 1918, Wolman helped develop a formula for mixing chlorine in water and later became a clean-water consultant to more than 50 countries.

DIED: Aldo Joseph Jacuzzi, 67, the former president of Jacuzzi Bros., Inc., which developed the whirlpool bath that became a symbol of a pleasure-seeking society in the 1970s, after a lengthy illness, in his home in Little Rock, Ark.

RECOVERING: British Columbia Premier **William Vander Zalm,** 54, from his second kidney stone attack in less than a week. Rushed to a Victoria hospital with severe pain prior to a meeting of his Social Credit caucus, the premier returned to the legislature several hours later, in time to join the meeting.

RETIRED: Legendary newspaperman **Ray Timson**, 60, who quit school at the age of 15 to join *The Toronto Star* as a copyboy and rose to the positions of managing editor, executive editor and finally assistant to the publisher.

OPENING NOTES

Ottawa gives a present to REAL Women, Patricia Carney goes on a paper chase, and Joe Ghiz stands in line

STAR-STRUCK HOLIDAYS

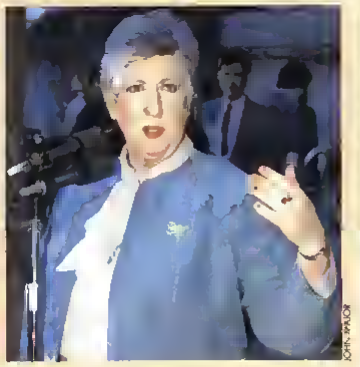
On Saturdays, *The Toronto Star's* usually fat travel section carries about 36 pages filled with ads for exotic vacations. But the section has shrunk to almost half that size since December—when the newspaper published two staff-written articles that were critical of hotel accommodations, food and services in the Dominican Republic and Cancun, a Mexican resort. In response to what they say was biased reporting, 13 large tour operators swiftly withdrew their ads from the newspaper. Declared Jill Wykes, a spokesman for the Canadian Association of Tour Operators: "Our members have complained about the *Star's* treatment of the travel industry for some time." *Star* editor John Honderich said that newspaper executives and tour operators have held several meetings since that time in an attempt to resolve their differences. Despite the continuing ad boycott, however, Honderich has stressed that the *Star* will not carry so-called puff pieces that simply promote travel destinations. Selling fun in the sun is a serious business.



Dominican beach scene: accusations of biased reporting

A wearisome paper chase in Ottawa

After External Affairs officials dispersed or destroyed 20,000 supposedly surplus documents from her files last spring, Patricia Carney said that the action would make it more difficult to write any comprehensive history of the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement. Still, the former international trade minister returned to Ottawa from Vancouver in mid-February to test the bureaucrats' claim that they could reassemble the original documents. But, according to Carney, that trial assembly failed to locate such critical material as her scribbled comments on such matters as a 1987 controversy over softwood lumber exports. Added Carney: "I am not making an issue of this because I want to write a book. Because I was involved, I am not the person to write the definitive book on free trade negotiations." But she could write about the ongoing paper chase—a task that could last for months.



Carney, the bureaucrats failed a trial assembly

FRENCH IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

Prince Edward Island Premier Joe Ghiz took French lessons last fall—supposedly to enhance his chances of becoming leader of the federal Liberal party. And, last week, he managed to enrol his four-year-old daughter, Joanne, in French-language kindergarten. But to do so, Ghiz—and 122 other applicants for 103 scarce spaces for their children—had to line up overnight in a Charlottetown school gymnasium. Declared Ghiz after his sleepless wait: "There must be a better way to get your child into French immersion."

A helping hand for REAL Women

In a small but significant rebuke to the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, Ottawa is about to provide first-time funding for REAL Women—a lobby group that espouses traditional family values. Many Conservatives say that they were enraged during last fall's federal election when NAC—which received $591,000 last year from Ottawa—spoke out against the Tories and declared that a U.S.-Canadian free trade agreement would harm women. Maclean's has learned that the secretary of state's department will give REAL Women $21,000 to fund a conference on equality. Thanks, gentlemen.



Sauvé (left); Queen Elizabeth following Canadians on a lead-free trail

LOW-POLLUTION ROYAL RIDES

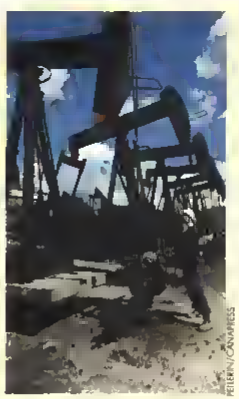
Queen Elizabeth II made a personal contribution to a British antipollution campaign recently—by announcing that the royal cars will use only unleaded gasoline. As 100 schoolchildren looked on near Buckingham Palace, the Queen, who took a basic mechanics course during the Second World War, inspected conversion work on a 1977 Rolls-Royce sedan. Still, the British monarch is only following a lead-free trail blazed by her representatives in Canada, where Gov. Gen. Jeanne Sauvé and the country's 10 lieutenant governors routinely use cars that require unleaded gasoline. Six provinces favor dark-blue or black Lincoln limousines—including British Columbia, which has a well-maintained 1976 model—for their regal representatives. And while Manitoba provides a modest 1984 Ford Crown Victoria sedan for Lt.-Gov. George Johnson, Sauvé can choose from a fleet of five cars that range from a late-model Cadillac to a 1984 Chevrolet Caprice. Horse-drawn landaus had simpler pollution problems.

SEEKING THE RIGHT TO A SOUTHERN *SUN*

The Toronto Sun Publishing Corp. has a long-standing ambition to launch a tabloid newspaper in Washington, D.C. But a small community newspaper in the capital has caused an unexpected complication in the newspaper chain's plans: it owns the rights to the name *The Washington Sun*. Declared Howard Johnson, a spokesman for J. C. Cooke, the newspaper's owner: "We are a black newspaper, which has been in existence for 22 years. We have from 16 to 32 pages, the paper comes out every Thursday, and we are sold through subscription. Now, some group up in Canada keeps calling me and telling me that they want to use my trade name and all this kind of stuff. I have told them that for $10 million they can do it." Stay tuned for further negotiations.

Drilling for royalties

Pelham Humphries left a modest inheritance after he died in a barroom brawl during the 1840s: the title to about 4,000 acres of marginal Texas rangeland. But the discovery of oil on that land in 1901 prompted many of his supposed descendants to file royalty claims that have now reached a staggering $293 billion. To date, such energy giants as Mobil Oil have not paid royalties while drilling on Humphries's land—because claimants have been unable to prove a direct link to Humphries in U.S. courts. But genealogical researchers from Britain's famed Burke's Peerage say that they have identified key documents that will support the claims. Burke's publishing director, Harold Brooks-Baker, said that 500 of Humphries's direct heirs could benefit from his firm's research—adding that the descendants would likely settle their claims for about $63 million. That is still a gusher.



Texas oil wells: staggering claims

Delay in high office

Paul Frazer, the press secretary to External Affairs Minister Joe Clark, is a prime candidate for a similar post with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney—a job that has been vacant for three months. Officials say that the delay is partly due to indecision: whether the new aide should report to Mulroney directly or through communications director Bruce Phillips. Insiders add that Phillips himself would leave for a Senate seat—but Mulroney has not yet offered him that plum.



Phillips: no Senate seat



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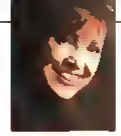
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COLUMN



Into the hands of the powerful

BY DIANE FRANCIS

Thomas Hockin's apparent demotion could help kill attempts to slow corporate concentration in financial areas

Proposed changes for the financial services industry contained in Bill C-56, which was introduced in 1987, have not become law because they could not move through Parliament before the last federal election, and it is now doubtful that they will ever become law. The bill would have reformed Canada's financial institutions and imposed measures designed to arrest concentration of ownership among some of the country's most prominent and powerful groups. While that is a laudable concern, fierce lobbying by opponents turned a delay of the bill's appearance into its eventual disappearance. Opposition was ferocious and may also have had something to do with the fact that the bill's sponsor, Minister of State for Finance Thomas Hockin, was shuffled off this winter to a new, unrelated portfolio for his pains—minister of state for small business and tourism.

I would not presume to second-guess the policy intentions of Hockin's replacement by Gilles Loiselle, the new minister of state for finance. He may propose even more draconian measures if he, too, embarks on yet another kick at the proverbial can. Hopefully, he will realize that Hockin's bill was definitely on the right track because it established a way to ban certain forms of ownership.

At first glance to most of us, Hockin's proposed legislation and the debate over the way financial institutions operate would seem to have little relevance. But such institutions are the backbone of any capitalist system, whether they be a bank, trust company, credit union, insurance company or securities dealer. Those institutions are the custodians of the public's cash in the form of deposits or investments. They are licensed and regulated by government. But once allowed in, their economic power is absolute.

The large financial institutions have the power to pick and choose our economy's winners and losers by lending or investing money at variable rates and different terms. To whom they lend, or in whom they invest, how much they invest, and what interest rate they offer, can make or break plans, individuals and even corporations. A nation's financial institutions are the gatekeepers of success, and that is why they must be independent from one another and free from conflicts of interest, favoritism, nepotism or political patronage.

Those were some of the many issues Hockin, and his predecessor, Barbara McDougall, tried to address in their successive roles as minister of state for finance. They both realized that the system needed reform to maximize the benefits to consumers and the country. McDougall's proposals ended along with her tenure in that portfolio. Without doubt, so have Hockin's, particularly because he went a step further by attempting to arrest the frightening extent of corporate concentration in Canada. The bill's delay and demise is perhaps a symptom of the political influence enjoyed by Canada's wealthiest families.

Hockin made proposals that would have increased competition by enlarging opportunities for such corporate and individual participants as Trevor Eyton and Trilon Financial Corp. His first reform took place in 1986 when Hockin, in concert with the provinces, allowed banks to buy brokerage firms. His legislation was going to open up things even more by letting insurance companies lend money like banks, by letting banks perform trust company services and trust companies perform bank functions. At the same time, he addressed the issues raised by the collapse of Edmonton-based Principal Group Ltd. by banning a whole series of transactions that could result in conflicts of interest. Among other innovations, he wanted financial institutions to set up so-called ethics committees of independent directors to review potentially troublesome transactions that involved affiliates or associates.

But Hockin's restrictions on ownership rankled the rich and powerful. "As I understand it, the only thing holding up the reforms was any restriction on ownership," said Bernard Ghert, formerly president of Cadillac Fairview Corp., who lobbied in favor of restrictions. "If this is true, and I believe it is, it will mean that these groups with widespread ownership have more political influence than I thought they did." Hockin not only wanted to hold bank ownership to a maximum of 10 per cent for any shareholder, but he also wanted to curb cross-ownership to prevent any corporation or individual from owning both financial and nonfinancial assets. To that end, his bill imposed a 65-per-cent ceiling on the ownership of both financial and nonfinancial assets and froze those below that ceiling at current levels. That effectively stemmed increasing control by the country's biggest empires—including Peter and Edward Bronfman's, with their Trilon Financial Corp. and Brascan holdings. The ceiling also would have forced two Montreal giants, Imasco Ltd. and Power Financial Corp., to reduce retroactively their level of controlling share positions in their trust companies. Opposition from Quebec was particularly strong, fuelled by such powerful figures as Paul Desmarais, head of Montreal-based Power Corp. of Canada.

But the most upsetting measure was Hockin's proposed ban on the sale of their share positions in the future. They were not to sell controlling share positions to another controlling shareholder, but were only allowed to sell their stock to the public. In essence, Hockin was freezing the existing levels of concentration, but putting into place a means of eliminating it through attrition. Opponents argued that if they could not sell their controlling positions as control blocks, it amounted to expropriation because it reduced values.

Hockin stood firm about ownership limits when I interviewed him last summer about the fierce opposition among financiers. At that time, he said that he had not decided on the issue of divestiture of control blocks in the future. He also said that the 65-per-cent ceiling represented a "philosophical breakthrough." He added, "What it means is that the next government can ratchet that 65 per cent down, at their pleasure." But with Hockin tucked away in small business and tourism, we can only hope that Loiselle will propose equally beneficial reforms. Let us hope that he realizes how high the stakes are for all of us in wrestling effectively with these issues.

THE LEADERS IN WAITING

JOHN TURNER JOKES WITH CAUCUS MEMBERS, BUT INSIDERS SAY THAT HE WILL SOON STEP DOWN

Liberal Leader John Turner has often brushed aside suggestions that he lacks the support of some of his party's most influential members. Last week, Turner even joked about the dissension within his party while attending a caucus meeting in St. John's, Nfld. Tanned and relaxed after a 10-day holiday in Jamaica, he told about 1,000 Newfoundland Liberals in a hotel overlooking the harbor that a recent operation to relieve a debilitating pinched nerve in his back had been successful. He paused for a moment, then added, "All of the knives have been removed." Turner's remark drew howls of laughter from the crowd, but it also underscored the uncertainty that surrounds his leadership in the wake of the party's defeat in the Nov. 21 federal election.

Turner, 59, has declined to say whether he wants to remain as leader long enough to fight the next election. If he does, most senior Liberals predict that he would lose the automatic leadership review that would have to be held at the party's next national convention, planned for Calgary in October. Meanwhile, several potential leadership candidates—including former cabinet minister Jean Chrétien and newly elected Montreal MP Paul Martin Jr.—are lining up supporters in the expectation that Turner will announce his resignation this summer, paving the way for a leadership convention in 1990.

The jostling among leadership contenders has brought into the open policy differences among Liberals on some major issues, including free trade and constitutional reform. And those disputes could hamper efforts to rebuild the party. Said national caucus chairman Brian Tobin last week: "There is a growing awareness that we ought not to catch what used to be called the Tory disease"—a phrase once used to describe the persistent feuding among Conservatives when that party was in opposition.

Turner himself sounded optimistic on Feb. 22 at the conclusion of the two-day caucus retreat in St. John's. At a news conference, the Liberal leader vowed that his party's 83 MPs would provide a unified and effective opposition to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's majority Conservative government. Declared the leader: "We are ready for the return of the House of Commons." But Turner was clearly annoyed by the fact that some Liberal MPs, including Martin, have publicly contradicted party policy. "I would say that there was irritation expressed," the Liberal leader said. He added, "Once a consensus is established in caucus, that should be the position publicly of our members until caucus decides otherwise."

Privately, Turner aides said that several other rookie MPs chastised Martin during last week's closed-door caucus meeting for failing to toe the party line. Martin, a wealthy Montreal shipping executive, told a Toronto audience last month that the Liberals' promise to tear up the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement was a "dead end." And in St. John's last week, Martin again appeared out of step with his leader when he told reporters that he favored immediate talks between Ottawa and the provinces to address some of the "very legitimate questions that have been raised" about the Meech Lake constitutional accord, which, among other things, brings Quebec into the Constitution and recognizes the province as a "distinct society."

Martin's views on Meech Lake are similar to those held by several other Liberal MPs, including fellow leadership hopeful Lloyd Axworthy of Winnipeg. But his position conflicts with Turner's own view that no further constitutional reform is possible until the accord has been ratified by the two provinces that have yet to do so: Manitoba and New Brunswick. Turner swiftly repudiated Martin's remarks. "Meech Lake is out of our hands," he said outside the meeting. "The matter is closed."

Martin: one of the few MPs lining up supporters



For his part, Martin appeared surprised by the controversy that his remarks had generated. "I am not used to all these reporters," he said at one point when asked to explain the discrepancies. Later, emerging from a caucus session, he brushed past reporters and declined to answer questions about Meech Lake. Declared Martin: "I do not disagree with anything the leader says. I think it is very important that we show unity as a party."

At the same time, Martin denied that his recent policy statements were intended to set the stage for a future run at the leadership. "I do not think there is a leadership race and I do not think we should have one," he said. "I hope Mr. Turner plans to stay around for a long time." Still, several MPs who attended last week's meeting said that Martin had already contacted them to ask for their support. "I got a telephone call from Paul Martin two days after the election," said rookie Scarborough-Agincourt MP James Karygiannis. "Later, we got together, and I asked him straight out if he was going to run for the leadership. He said yes. He even promised to consider me for cabinet." Two weeks ago, Karygiannis said, he received a telephone call from Chrétien. "He said he still had not made up his mind about running, but that if he did run, he hoped that he could count on my support."

Of the two men, Martin appears to have done the most to prepare for a leadership contest. Indeed, Liberal insiders say that the Montreal businessman has little choice but to get his campaign machinery assembled and running quickly: the fluently bilingual son of former Liberal cabinet minister and high commissioner to London Paul Martin, the younger Martin is widely known in business circles but lacks Chrétien's national profile and charisma. Moreover, even Martin's supporters acknowledge that his public-speaking style is uninspiring. Said a lawyer who has helped organize events for Martin in Toronto: "Paul needs more time to build up his exposure and experience." Added Jonathan Schneiderman, a Martin activist: "Expectations were high when Paul spoke in Toronto last month, but no one was overwhelmed."

Despite those problems, Martin has put together a formidable list of supporters. They include Gerald Schwartz, a Toronto businessman and prominent Liberal fund raiser; Michael Robinson, currently the party's finance secretary, and former Quebec City MP Dennis Dawson, who is co-ordinating Martin's Quebec organization. In addition, Toronto freelance communications consultant Allan Golombek, a former speech writer for Ontario Premier David Peterson, is now writing speeches for Martin and would likely perform a similar role during a leadership campaign. Patrick Gossage, a press secretary to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau between 1976 and 1982 whose firm has handled public relations for Martin's shipping company, CSL Group Inc., has been asked by one of Martin's organizers to become the media adviser for the campaign.

By contrast, Chrétien's supporters say that they can afford to wait until Turner decides to step down. Ottawa lawyer Edward Golden-



Turner with delegates in St. John's: 'All of the knives have been removed'

National Notes

GETTY SETS A DATE
Alberta Premier Donald Getty called an early provincial election for March 20. Albertans will go to the polls less than three years after Getty, whose Conservatives now hold 61 of the legislature's 83 seats, took office.

RETURNING THE NDP
Yukoners returned the New Democrats, under leader Antony Penikett, to power in the territorial election held on Feb. 20. The NDP won nine of the legislative assembly's 16 seats, with the Conservatives taking the rest. The Yukon has the only NDP government in Canada.

ASYLUM IN CANADA
Zacarías Osorio Cruz, 32, a Mexican army deserter who has admitted to killing at least 60 political prisoners between 1977 and 1982, will be allowed to remain in Canada as a refugee. Cruz said that if deported to Mexico, he could be killed by a death squad.

TEACHER SHORTAGE
A report released by the Canadian Teachers Federation warned that Canada faces a shortage of 30,000 teachers by the turn of the century.

SELLING OUT
The Newfoundland government reached an agreement in principle to sell the controversial Sprung greenhouse complex. A group of international businessmen, including Canadian investors, will buy the complex near St. John's, which produces cucumbers. The province has invested $18 million in the project since May, 1987.

ABORTION ON HOLD
Justice Minister Douglas Lewis said that the federal government will wait for the Supreme Court to rule on a case concerning the rights of the fetus before deciding on a new abortion law. He was commenting on a Law Reform Commission of Canada report recommending that women have easy—but not unrestricted—access to abortion up to the 22nd week of pregnancy.

COMMITMENT TO ETHICS
Nova Scotia's speech from the throne committed the Conservative government to combat threats to the environment, reform the justice system and create an ethics council to administer a code of standards for MLAs. Premier John Buchanan won his fourth straight majority last September.

berg, a close friend and adviser, said that a Chrétien team "could be thrown together in 20 minutes with a phone call or two" because of the former cabinet minister's high profile and grassroots popularity, particularly in English-speaking Canada.

Chrétien also has the experience of having sought the leadership once before, in 1984, when Turner won it. Among those who supported him then and are ready to pitch in again are John Rae, a vice-president of the Montreal-based Power Corp. of Canada, David Collenette, a former Trudeau cabinet minister and secretary general of the party, and Ronald Irwin, a lawyer and former MP from Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. Said one prominent supporter: "It is a pretty informal structure right now but it is broad. Chrétien does not want to be perceived as a man who is going to throw Turner out."

At the grassroots level, supporters of Chrétien and Martin have begun to battle one another for positions on the executives of local riding associations. Their aim is to influence the selection of delegates to a leadership convention, if and when it is held. And at the annual general meeting of the Ontario Young Liberals last month, Chrétien supporters ran a slate for the 18 executive positions against a rival group of young aides from the Peterson government—many of them sympathetic to Martin. The Chrétien supporters took the majority of the posts and they now claim to control the youth wing in Ontario.

Despite those efforts, many Liberals remain unenthusiastic about both men. Martin is widely viewed as a political neophyte, while Chrétien is regarded by many as a symbol of the past. As a result, some Liberals say that they are still searching for a candidate who can project new ideas. "There is a real problem in jumping on a bandwagon," said Seymour Iseman, a former president of the party's Ontario wing. Iseman said that he has not committed himself to a leadership contender, adding: "I think the Liberal party has a serious problem. We have to assess where we want to take the country." Among others who might throw their hats in the ring: Premier Jim Ghiz of Prince Edward Island, Quebec party wing president Francis Fox, Toronto MP Dennis Mills and Hamilton MP Sheila Copps.

For now, Turner is remaining silent on his plans for the future. A senior caucus member who publicly professes loyalty to the leader told *Maclean's* that he believes Turner, in his heart, would like to remain as leader. But he added: "Sometime before the summer, I expect that John will place a series of telephone calls to his friends and advisers and ask them what he should do. When he does, I and everyone else I know are going to tell him to step down. He has had two chances and that is more than anyone has the right to expect." If Turner chooses to follow that advice, there will be no shortage of contenders willing to commit time and money to the struggle to take his place.

ROSS LAVER *in St. John's with* **PAUL KAIHLA** *in Toronto and* **BRUCE WALLACE** *in Ottawa*

In search of unity

The Liberals' Tobin tackles morale

Young, brash and intensely partisan, Brian Tobin is one of the most aggressive Liberal MPs in the House of Commons. But during the past year, the chain-smoking 34-year-old Newfoundlander has had to work equally hard in the back rooms of federal politics. As national chairman of the Liberal caucus, Tobin has struggled to bring order to a demoralized and fractious party. The job has been a constant challenge—as Tobin discovered less than a month after taking office last March, when 22 MPs signed letters demanding that party leader John Turner step down. Tobin played a key role in crushing that rebellion. And his task now is to impose a veneer of unity on a caucus divided by policy differences and preoccupied by the expected race to succeed Turner.



GREG LOCKE/PICTURE WORKS

Tobin: 'The last election gave us a lot of new blood'

Tobin, who denies rumors that he plans to seek the leadership himself, vowed before last week's national caucus meeting in St. John's, Nfld., to ensure that the new group of Liberal MPs functions more as a team than its predecessor did. The party elected 83 members on Nov. 21, up from 38 in the last Parliament. "Some of the new members are thinking, 'Surely to God we can do a better job than that last crew,'" said Tobin. "I understand their feelings. I look back on the divisions of the last four years as an unhappy time."

But already, two of the new MPs, Paul Martin Jr. of Montreal and Dennis Mills of Toronto, have publicly tried to distance themselves from the party's pre-election promise to tear up the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. Re-elected Winnipeg MP Lloyd Axworthy, formerly a bitter critic of the FTA, has said that the Liberals may have to learn to live with the trade deal now that it has taken effect. "I have to be pragmatic about those sorts of statements," Tobin said. "Am I upset that Martin is saying one thing and Axworthy something else? No. But if the same thing happens a week after our caucus meeting, I will be upset."

Still, Tobin said that the election of 49 new Liberal MPs has raised the morale of party members significantly. In 1980, when he first won a seat in the Commons, many of his colleagues on the Liberal benches were veteran MPs who, he said, "were experts at getting elected but had no real commitment to anything else." Tobin added: "The party had lost its raison d'être." Then, in the wake of the 1984 Liberal defeat, the party plunged into a period of soul-searching. Declared Tobin: "I think John Turner gave it an honest shot, but we were attempting to renew the party at a time when Liberals were still reeling from the shock of being in opposition. This last election gave us a lot of new blood, people with new ideas who are not hung up on the glory days under Pierre Trudeau."

Once viewed as an honorary member of the publicity-seeking band of young Liberal MPs known as the Rat Pack, Tobin has moderated his style since becoming caucus chairman. Indeed, one MP who opposed his candidacy for chairman said privately that Tobin has proved himself to be an adept mediator. But Tobin said that he will not hesitate to confront MPs who fail to respect caucus solidarity. "I am a very blunt person," he declared. "If I see something I do not like, I will not hesitate to speak out." Skeptics may question his chances of success, but there is little doubt that unity is what the Liberals now need most.

ROSS LAVER *in St. John's*

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The 'twilight zone'

A new report describes poverty in New Brunswick

Lorne and Katherine Blakney and their two children live in a three-room basement, but there is no house above it. Their roof is the tar paper-covered first floor of the unfinished structure. One morning last week when the squalls of snow that had besieged southern New Brunswick all month turned to rain, spouts of water began pouring into the Blakney home, five kilometres from the comfortable university community of Sackville. While their three-year old son Christopher watched TV cartoons from a sodden sofa, the Blakneys hastily arranged 11 pots and buckets to catch the water. "This is the roughest time of the year," said Lorne, a 26-year-old part-time mechanic who still harbors hopes of adding a house to the basement that he and his wife have occupied for five years. "There are the leaks and the damp and the mould. But at least it's a roof over our heads, and the kids are happy." The amiable and resourceful Blakneys are part of a widely scattered and severely impoverished community that has been identified in a new report from a New Brunswick task force on housing.

The 168-page report entitled "Home Sweet Home?" and released on Feb. 13 reveals that at least 30,000 New Brunswick families are in desperate need of adequate shelter. Shocked members of the 10-person task force said that they had found people living in conditions that reminded them of underdeveloped countries. The report said that many of the families are living in what it called a "twilight zone" of unfinished homes, many of them unhealthy, unsafe and in even worse condition than the Blakneys' basement quarters. Said task force co-chairman William Todd, director of housing and property management for the city of Saint John: "We saw cases where there were people living in conditions like we often see on television from the Third World—where they had no water, no sewer, no electricity and there was a baby crawling around on a mud floor. We cannot forget what we saw and heard."

Patrick Flanagan, president of a Fredericton community development consulting firm, said that two of his fellow members of the all-volunteer task force felt ill after visiting blighted housing. "Perhaps I was prepared for it more than others," he said. "I had spent some time in Ethiopia. Some of the conditions are parallel." Another member, Claudette Bradshaw, executive director of a Moncton community program for disadvantaged preschool children, said that in one home that she visited near Campbellton, in northern New Brunswick, three people—a mother, an uncle and daughter—slept in one room, while a second daughter slept in a clothes closet. She said that the family ate dog food. "Kids brought up in clothes closets have kids at 12 or 13 themselves and they live on dog food, too," said Bradshaw. "Canada is going to have to wake up pretty soon."



GREG ARTKEN HUB PHOTO

Katherine Blakney with son Christopher: Third World conditions

The task force began its work late last spring. Among its 50 recommendations: the provincial government should expand the housing supply by offering home-completion loans and establish minimum housing standards in rural areas. Sue Rickards, co-ordinator of the $75,000 investigation, predicted that its report "is going to be very high on the agenda" when the New Brunswick legislature meets again in mid-March.

Housing Minister Peter Trites indicated agreement. The needs of poorly housed New Brunswickers are pressing, said Trites. "When every day is a question of survival, of choices between basics such as heating and eating, there is little or no possibility of staying healthy, planning ahead, learning new skills or providing a stimulating environment for one's children," he said. Premier Frank McKenna has indicated that a multi-billion-dollar improvement of the province's antiquated highway system and better health care are at the top of his list of future projects. At week's end, his office had not commented on the housing report.

Meanwhile, Douglas Oulton, acting mayor of Sackville, said that one solution for the 200 families in the Sackville area who have applied for housing assistance—as well as other New Brunswickers in need—may lie in self-help and community co-operation. "Yes, the province must deliver funding but we can deliver programs," said Oulton. "People are not looking for handouts, just a little support."

That is certainly the case for the Blakneys, whose total family income last year was $12,000. They said that they have never been on social assistance or asked for government help of any kind, apart from $800 they received as partial payment of the $1,000 cost of repairs to their son Christopher's decayed teeth. Meanwhile, Lorne Blakney, who has had little work so far this year, faces last month's $95 hydro bill and the $100 monthly loan payment on his damp and tiny basement. "It is a constant struggle," he said. "You just start getting ahead and then something goes wrong." For the Blakneys, and thousands of other New Brunswick families, that grim observation summed up the difficulty facing those desperately trying to escape the poverty trap.

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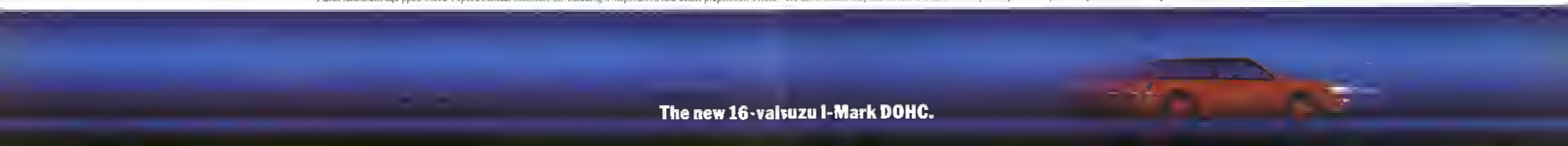
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Prairie high rollers

Two provinces want to expand gambling

The decisions raised the spectre of two Prairie capitals vying for the title of Las Vegas North Last week, the Manitoba government announced that it will open a year-round casino on the seventh floor of Winnipeg's historic Fort Garry Hotel Three days later, legislative gambling fever surfaced in Regina when the Saskatchewan government said that it will introduce gaming legislation to allow government run electronic games of chance and possibly slot machines According to government sources, such legalized gambling could generate up to $35 million a year in revenues, and much of it would be earmarked for health care But despite the respectable goals critics reacted swiftly and bitterly, saying that gambling would take money from many people who can least afford it Declared Maj Gary Venables of the Salvation Army in Regina, "The end does not justify the means"

But for provincial governments in need of money and reluctant to raise taxes legislated gambling can provide a windfall Manitoba has collected about $3 5 million a year from a small, government-run casino that operates 120 days a year in the Winnipeg Convention Centre but will be closed when the Fort Garry casino opens in October Officials estimate that the new casino—which will also have gaming tables—will bring in as much as $10 million in revenue annually British Columbia has also succumbed to the lure of sanctioned gambling—for three years the government-run B C Steamship Lines has had slot machines on two ships that travel between Victoria and Seattle Their total of 160 machines collected $9 million in 1988 on only 140 days of operation—and then only during the two hours on each round trip when the ships were in Canadian waters

For his part, Saskatchewan's consumer and commercial affairs minister, Raymond Meiklejohn, defended the plan against the criticism from Venables and others He said that millions of dollars leave the province for Nevada's high-stakes gambling centres such as Las Vegas—a popular destination for westerners yearning to try their luck. Said Meiklejohn, "I think we could make a lot of revenue from it"

But critics of legalized gambling such as William Livant, professor of psychology at the University of Regina, said that government-sanctioned gambling is often nothing more than a way to get more tax revenue out of the poor Said Livant "It is a very regressive form of taxation It is taxing the poor to pay for themselves." Others said that they opposed looser gambling laws on moral grounds Last week, the Vancouver school board said that it would not become involved in casino nights to raise money for educational activities Said trustee Harkirpal Sara "What would the kids say when they look at how the money is raised? They are watching the behavior of adult society As moral educators, we have to be careful" And in Quebec, Liberal House Leader Michel Gratton said last week that the government will not give in to pressure to allow casinos in the province. Gratton claimed that they could attract those involved in organized crime

In Saskatchewan, officials did not specify what kind of gambling centres would be created once the legislation has been passed But one thing seemed a sure bet whatever form liberalization takes, fewer Prairie high rollers would feel the compulsion to get on a plane to Las Vegas

PEETER KOPVILLEM *with DALE EISLER in Regina*

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DEADLY DEFIANCE

THE AYATOLLAH QUICKLY DASHED ANY HOPES THAT HE MIGHT SHOW MERCY TO SALMAN RUSHDIE

When Canadian diplomat Scott Mullin flew to Tehran last October and reopened Canada's embassy in Iran, he ended eight years during which Canada and Iran maintained no formal diplomatic ties. That action resulted from a wider opening up to the West adopted by Iran's revolutionary Islamic government in the months following the end of its war with Iraq. But on Feb. 23, Mullin abruptly left Tehran—joining an exodus of Western diplomats in a growing international protest over Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's murderous edict against British author Salman Rushdie. Khomeini's order, first issued two weeks ago and reiterated last week, calls on Moslems around the world to kill Rushdie for allegedly blaspheming against Islam in his novel *The Satanic Verses*. The death threat, declared External Affairs Minister Joe Clark, "constitutes a fundamental breach of international law and practice."

Canada was among 16 countries that withdrew representatives from Iran last week to underline their opposition to Khomeini's order. At the same time, prominent writers in Europe and North America joined the chorus condemning the threat against Rushdie, who remained in hiding under armed guard in Britain. But those protests did nothing to soften Iran's official position. Instead, as voices of moderation inside Iran were drowned out by even harsher threats against the writer, it became clear that Khomeini had used the Rushdie affair to shift the balance of power in Iran decisively against those favoring greater openness to the West. "As long as I am alive," the 88-year-old leader declared in an uncompromising message on Tehran Radio, "I will never allow liberals to come to power again."

Khomeini first ordered Rushdie's death on Feb. 14, and for a few days it seemed that there might be room for compromise. Iranian President Ali Khamenei suggested three days later that the author might be forgiven if he apologized. The next day, Rushdie expressed regret for any distress to "sincere followers of Islam" caused by his book—which Moslems contend insults the Prophet Mohammed and distorts their religion. But the Ayatollah quickly dashed any hopes that Rushdie might be granted mercy. "Even if Salman Rushdie repents and becomes the most pious man in the world," he said, "it is incumbent on every Moslem to employ everything he's got, his life and wealth, to send him to hell." President Khamenei quickly changed his tune. "There is no solution to the Rushdie affair," he said. "An arrow has been shot and it is unerringly aimed at its target."



Pro-Rushdie demonstrators in New York City: protests and diplomatic action

That defiance led major Western governments to take strong diplomatic action. Britain, Rushdie's home for the past 20 years, had at first issued only a cautious condemnation out of concern for British citizens held captive in Iran or by Iranian-backed groups in Lebanon. But on Monday, Britain received firm support for a stronger stand from its 11 partners in the European Community. All 12 EC governments withdrew their top diplomatic representatives from Tehran—and Britain closed its embassy completely. Sweden, Denmark and Norway quickly joined the protest. Iran retaliated by summoning its European ambassadors home—destroying months of work in rebuilding diplomatic relations with the West.

Jelinek (left), Rushdie: threats and protection



In Ottawa, Clark summoned Mullin back to Canada for consultations the day after the EC countries announced their action. But he left one low-level diplomat in Tehran—prompting Liberal Leader John Turner to charge that Canada's response to the Rushdie threat had been weak. Responded Clark: "We are not in a race with other countries as to who condemns the Ayatollah."

Canada's position was also clouded by Revenue Canada's decision to review *The Satanic Verses* under a federal law prohibiting the importation of hate literature. On Feb. 17, the department announced that any new imports of the novel would be detained while customs officers reviewed it, following a complaint from a Canadian Moslem group. But a spokesman later said that the book's publishers, Penguin Books Canada Ltd., had asked for an early review—and on Feb. 19, Revenue Canada ruled that *The Satanic Verses* is not hate literature. Revenue Minister Otto Jelinek expressed sympathy with Moslems who feel offended but added that Ottawa cannot ban importation of the book. Then, Jelinek himself received death threats and was put under guard by the RCMP. Meanwhile, Penguin officials said that during the week of Khomeini's first death threat to Rushdie, they had distributed three new shipments of *The Satanic Verses* to Canadian booksellers. Two of them came from Britain, but *Maclean's* has learned that the third was printed in Canada.

There were other signs of strong feeling across Canada and elsewhere. Managers of some bookstores said that members of their staff had received threats for selling *The Satanic Verses*. And several booksellers criticized Ottawa's temporary ban on importation of the book. "It sends the wrong signal," said Serge Lavoie, executive director of the Canadian Booksellers Association. In New York City, leading writers, including Norman Mailer and E. L. Doctorow, rallied in support of Rushdie, reading excerpts from *The Satanic Verses* and protesting outside major bookstores that had taken the novel off their shelves. By week's end, some of those U.S. retailers announced that they would resume sales. And in Canada, a spokesman for Coles Book Stores Ltd. said that the firm would also allow its managers to resume selling the book.

In Bombay, meanwhile, Indian police killed at least 12 Moslems and wounded 40 others last Friday when angry protesters tried to march on the British Deputy High Commission to condemn Rushdie's book. And throughout the week, Khomeini's supporters vowed to carry out his execution order. In Lebanon, leaders of the pro-Iranian Hizbullah, or Party of God, labelled *The Satanic Verses* "a method of aggression against Islam and the Prophet Mohammed"—and promised to retaliate. Another pro-Iranian group, the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, also vowed revenge in a statement sent to a Western news agency in Beirut—and included a photo of three American hostages that the group is believed to be holding in Lebanon.

In Iran itself, Khomeini's condemnation of "liberals" in the Islamic government could well signal a shift back toward militant policies after the comparative moderation of the past several months. Most Western analysts had ascribed the greater openness to Iran's need for Western economic aid following the ceasefire last August in its eight-year war with Iraq. With the country's economy in ruins, they said, moderates—grouped around parliament speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani—had favored renewing diplomatic and commercial ties with key Western countries, including Britain. But Khomeini, apparently halting that policy, described the controversy over *The Satanic Verses* as a godsend that had delivered Iran from "a naive foreign policy."

From his place in hiding, meanwhile, Rushdie wrote a newspaper review of American author Philip Roth's autobiography, *The Facts*. In it, Rushdie says that he feels a kinship with Roth, whose books were once heavily criticized by his fellow Jews. For Rushdie, however—at the centre of a potentially deadly storm that showed no signs of subsiding—Roth's experience must have seemed comparatively placid.

ANDREW PHILLIPS *with* **MARC CLARK** *in Ottawa and* **MARY NEMETH** *in Toronto*

World Notes

NEW PEACE ASSIGNMENTS

Canada expects to send between 200 and 250 soldiers to provide communications, transportation and office services for the multinational UN force that will oversee Namibia's transition to independence from South Africa beginning on April 1, UN diplomats said. Meanwhile in Cyprus, the first Canadian to command the eight-nation peacekeeping force there in its 25-year history—Maj.-Gen. Clive Milner—will take over the UN post on the Mediterranean island.

FORMER KLANSMAN ELECTED

Former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, 38, became a Republican member of the Louisiana House of Representatives after a byelection victory in a predominantly white New Orleans suburb. The national Republican party leadership promptly cut all ties with Duke.

IRA ATTACKS

The Irish Republican Army blew up two barracks at a British army camp in Shrewsbury, England, slightly injuring one man. Two days later, IRA gunmen shot to death a British soldier in Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

MIDDLE EAST AGREEMENT

Israeli owners of a luxury hotel at Taba on the Gulf of Aqaba, the centre of a six-year dispute between Egypt and Israel, agreed to turn it over to Egypt for $44 million. That removed a major barrier to implementing a 1988 international arbitration ruling that awarded Egypt the tiny enclave of Taba, which Israel kept when it withdrew from the rest of the Sinai peninsula in 1982.

REFORM IN HUNGARY

Hungary's ruling communists—working on major law reforms that are expected to permit multiparty elections for the first time since 1947—agreed to drop from the constitution a provision that the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party "is the leading power of society."

AFGHAN GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE

After two weeks of bitter wrangling, Afghan Moslem rebels finally voted to create a government-in-exile, choosing a moderate for president and a fundamentalist for prime minister. The new government promised to hold elections within eight months. But Iran-based guerrillas, who boycotted the meetings, said that they were not bound by the Feb. 23 vote, raising questions about the level of support enjoyed by the fledgling government.

SOUTH AFRICA

Fighting back

Winnie Mandela battles her accusers

Winnie Mandela, ostracized by her own countrymen—the black men and women who make up the vast majority of South Africans—battled back furiously last week. Ignoring the reported advice of her few remaining supporters to remain silent, the fallen idol of the South African freedom movement spoke out against those who had condemned her for condoning—perhaps even encouraging—the violent activities of her bodyguards, the so-called Mandela United Football Club. "I feel a sense of total betrayal," said the wife of jailed African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela in a British television interview. She added that she is "appalled" that her onetime associates would believe that she could be responsible for the murder of 14-year-old activist Stompie Moeketsi who the police charge was beaten to death in Mandela's home. In fact, Mandela went one bizarre step further without providing details, she claimed that Stompie was not dead at all—and that the badly decomposed body buried last Saturday was not his. But she did not seem to win any converts. Stompie's mother, Esabelle Seipei, had identified the body, and police said that fingerprint experts also made a positive identification.

As Mandela gave vent to her anger, four of her bodyguards, arrested last week, were in police custody. Two of them—both juveniles—were later released into the custody of their parents. But football club manager Jerry Richardson, 27, and a man named Jabu Sithole were held on charges of abducting and killing Stompie. Meanwhile, Nelson Mandela—the black nationalist leader serving a life sentence for treason and who is now confined to a house at a prison near Cape Town—called in his two top legal advisers to discuss the crisis. Some observers said that the Stompie case had helped turn black opinion irreparably against his wife. "People here think that Winnie should pipe down," said an African journalist in close touch with Soweto, the turbulent township on the far outskirts of Johannesburg where Winnie lives. "She has been sitting on a powder keg for months and shouldn't complain now that it has gone off under her."

Adding to the suspicions surrounding Mandela's bodyguards were two other murders and a lethal shooting incident. In the first case, four men were charged last week with the Jan. 12 murder of football club member Maxwell Madondo in what Soweto sources said was a revenge killing. And in another twist of the revenge spiral, a 13 year-old girl was killed in a hail of gunfire as unknown men attacked and burned the house of a woman allegedly involved in the Madondo murder. Also last week, two men were charged with the Jan. 27 murder of Abu-Baker Asvat, an Indian doctor and political activist practising in Soweto. Mandela has said that Asvat could have proved her claim that Stompie and three other boys abducted by her bodyguards had been sexually abused by the white Methodist minister in charge of the hostel where they lived. But her critics said that Asvat might have been killed because he could prove that the boy had *not* been molested. Quite possibly both theories are false: in court last week, one of the accused said that he had shot Asvat during a $70 robbery.

Although a Methodist church inquiry exonerated the minister of sexual abuse charges, Mandela repeated her charges last week and also accused the South African Council of Churches of deliberately planning her downfall. A Methodist church spokesman dismissed her claims as "absurd." Mandela also accused the South African security forces of being part of a conspiracy against her to "destabilize the political situation within the black community"—one point on which she and the exiled leadership of the ANC in Lusaka, Zambia seem to agree. Last week, the state-run South African Broadcasting Corp. ran an unprecedented interview from Lusaka with ANC spokesman Tom Sebina, who cannot normally be quoted in South Africa under current media laws. Sebina repeated an earlier ANC statement that police had helped provoke the controversy by infiltrating the football club. At the same time, another ANC statement pointedly sent condolences to Stompie's mother, calling him "a committed young lion who made an immense contribution in the mobilization of the youth."

That assessment was shared by many black South Africans. In Tumahole, a black township southwest of Johannesburg where he was born, Stompie had been the leader of an army of some 1,500 boys, all under 14, who were armed with sticks, stones and lead pipes. He became known in the black community as "the little general" for his exploits in fighting black right-wing vigilantes. At only 10, he became the country's youngest detainee under state-of-emergency regulations; he was released after 11 months. And although he had very little formal education, black admirers said that Stompie had an extraordinary grasp of political ideas and a flair for public speaking.

But Stompie's days as a leader were numbered. Late last year, after his army was smashed by the vigilantes, he fled to Soweto, finding a home in the Methodist hostel. With his home-town funeral on Saturday, Stompie's brief life and cruel death passed into legend. But the end of the story of Winnie Mandela, the so-called mother of black South Africa who has been transformed from heroine to pariah, has yet to be written—leaving the anti-apartheid movement in decided disarray.

JOHN BIERMAN *in Soweto*



Mandela in Soweto before the controversy: 'sitting on a powder keg for months'

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THE UNITED STATES

Capitol showdown

A Senate committee deals Bush a setback

There were rumors of pretty women too much liquor and too-intimate ties to the defence industry They circulated even before George Bush last December nominated former senator John Tower, his longtime political ally, to be secretary of defence And while Bush insisted that he was satisfied with Tower's personal and professional qualifications, members of the Senate armed services committee which reviewed his candidacy said that they were not—and delayed their final vote for 10 weeks of detailed examination Last week, following party lines, the committee voted to reject Tower, and members asked the full Senate to do the same when it considers the nomination this week. With that, the Democrat-dominated committee dealt the first major blow to the young Bush presidency, ending its honeymoon with Congress After all 11 Democrats on the committee voted against Tower and all nine Republicans in favor, a solemn Republican Senator John McCain of Arizona declared that the early Bush-era spirit of bipartisanship had just been "impaired dramatically."

The vote marked the first time in 44 years that a Senate committee had rejected a president's choice for his cabinet—and Bush, in Tokyo for Emperor Hirohito's funeral, stood firmly by his nominee "It's not a personal win or lose," said the President "It's what's right, who is best to run the defence department And I'm going to win this battle " But the Democrats hold a 55-to-45 majority in the Senate, which could prove critical in the vote expected this week And at week's end, sources close to Tower said that he was considering withdrawing his name in order to save Bush from a bitter floor fight—and another potentially embarrassing setback

Although not close personal friends, Bush and Tower have longtime ties. In 1966, Tower—elected to the Senate from Texas five years earlier—supported Bush in his successful run for the House of Representatives In 1980, when most prominent Republicans joined Ronald Reagan's camp, Tower stood behind Bush And during last year's elections, Bush advisers said that Tower proved an invaluable campaigner he spent much of the race chaperoning Dan Quayle, the controversy-prone vice-presidential candidate.

But when Bush nominated him for secretary of defence, the armed services committee delayed its vote while the FBI investigated Tower. According to unsubstantiated rumors the diminutive, slick-haired Texan had a drinking problem, had conducted indiscreet romantic affairs with women—including a Russian ballerina—and had even chased his secretaries around their desks Tower denied having a current drinking problem, insisting that he was "a man of some discipline." The FBI also investigated the $885,000 that Tower earned as a consultant to the defence industry after he had served as a U.S negotiator in arms control talks in Geneva Tower again denied any wrongdoing but critics questioned whether his ties to industry would pose conflicts of interest if he were in charge of the Pentagon's $350-billion budget.

The FBI's final 140-page report—made available to the White House and senators last Monday—referred to his self-acknowledged drinking problem in the 1970s when he was going through a divorce, media reports said It also contained allegations that Tower had been seen drunk in public as recently as last August,



Tower, Bush 'a blizzard of allegations'

but they were not corroborated by other sources and, in some cases, they were contradicted Bush insisted that the report exonerated his candidate But even Senator McCain, who voted to confirm Tower, said that there is "a veritable blizzard of allegations, and I will admit that some of these allegations are open to interpretation."

Ultimately, the Democratic senators apparently decided that there was enough information to reject Tower's candidacy Explained Alan J Dixon, a Democratic senator from Illinois "I agree with some who say there may not be a smoking gun but there is an abundance of smoke."

Still Tower s rejection may have been influenced by factors other than his qualifications Sam Nunn of Georgia, the widely respected armed services committee chairman, is, like Tower, considered a congressional expert on defence, and some Washington analysts contended that the confirmation process could have involved a battle for political power. Senate sources suggested that Conservative Democrats were wavering on their vote up to the last minute—and that it was Nunn who pulled them into line With Tower's alleged drinking problem, Nunn said after the vote, the nominee could not qualify to command a missile wing or a bomber squadron—and so "I cannot in good conscience" vote to put him in charge of the Pentagon

For the record, Tower himself would only say that he was "obviously disappointed" Bush, meanwhile, telephoned Senate Republican Leader Robert Dole from Japan to ask him to try to ensure that Republican senators continued to support Tower. According to senior administration officials, Bush said that he would not press Tower to withdraw his name But while the President has steadfastly refused to suggest alternatives to Tower as secretary of defence, administration sources had begun to provide some names Most prominent: Norman Augustine, the chief executive officer of defence contractor Martin Marietta Corp , and former president Gerald Ford's defence secretary Donald Rumsfeld

If the Tower confirmation is voted on by the full Senate the fight could be decidedly fierce Before the committee vote, Dole said that Democratic senators would risk "tearing this place up" if they used their majority power to kill Tower's nomination. And he charged that there were members in the Senate who had blemished personal backgrounds "There could be some hypocrisy around here," he said Added Republican Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska "I've known senators who had drinking problems. We've even known senators to drink during working hours." On that combative note, the Republicans prepared for a final stand—plainly hoping that, for Bush, the affair would not prove to be a sign of towering troubles ahead

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Death in the Pacific

After a tragedy, Flight 811 returns safely

United Airlines Flight 811 with 338 passengers and 18 crew members onboard left the tropical heat of Honolulu International Airport at 1:33 a.m. last Friday and banked to the south on its predetermined route to Auckland, New Zealand. Then, at 2:16 a.m., the Honolulu tower reported that the pilot of the Boeing 747 jumbo jet, David Cronin, was requesting ambulance equipment and attempting to bring his crippled aircraft back to Hawaii. Seventy miles out over the Pacific, part of the caused by a bomb explosion. Federal investigators said on Saturday that structural damage appeared to have caused the 12- by 25-foot hole in Flight 811 as it reached the 22,000-foot level. But they refused to rule out a bomb explosion. Said Robert Heafner, a member of the Honolulu FBI office: "At this point, we can't confirm or deny that there was any kind of explosive. But there was none of the usual fragmentation from when a bomb goes off."

The 747 involved in Friday's near-disaster



The crippled 747 in Honolulu. 'I can tell you that was a long flight back'

outer fuselage of the 747 had ripped away, leaving a gaping hole in the forward starboard side, sucking nine passengers out to their deaths in a 22,000-foot plunge to the sea and injuring 11 others. Six of the dead were American, two were Australian and one was a New Zealander. Two of the aircraft's four engines were disabled in the incident, but Cronin, a veteran of over 34 years with United, managed to land it safely one hour and five minutes after departure. Said passenger Bruce Lampert of Denver: "I heard a large rushing of noise. The plane made a rapid descent. I can tell you, that was a long flight back."

The disaster raised new concerns about the safety of older planes and about potential manufacturing flaws in some aircraft. Last April, a stewardess was killed and 61 passengers were injured when part of the top of a 737 peeled off an Aloha Airlines flight during an interisland flight in Hawaii. Other recent incidents involving Boeing planes include the crash of a 707 in the Azores, apparently because of pilot error, and the crash of a 747 in Lockerbie, Scotland, was delivered from Boeing in 1970, but company officials and experts from the Federal Aviation Agency said that age was not a factor. The aircraft had made 15,021 flights and had spent 58,815 hours in the air. But a government official said that, using standard measurements, the plane was only "middle-aged."

Aboard Flight 811, events unfolded with lightning rapidity. Business-class passenger Gary Garber, who boarded the flight in Los Angeles, where it originated, said: "I was trying to get to sleep when I heard a hissing sound. It lasted about three or four seconds." Added Garber: "All of a sudden, it exploded, and I'd say three or four rows of people on the right side of the plane were blown out. There were about 18 inches between me and the open air." Emergency medical specialists said that the nine people sucked out of the plane would have been killed from striking the plane's fuselage or from hitting the water after a two-minute plunge. The miracle of Flight 811 was that many more passengers did not suffer that same terrifying fate. □



Members of the Imperial Guard bearing Hirohito's palanquin with the body of Hirohito; President George Bush and wife, Barbara (below right), mourners: the era of achieving peace



JAPAN

An imperial farewell

Japan buries its 124th emperor, Hirohito

Not since the Washington funeral of John F. Kennedy in 1963 had there been burial rites for a head of state that were nearly so grand, so lengthy or so heavily attended by foreign dignitaries. In Tokyo on Friday, in a daylong ritual of Shinto and secular ceremonies under a chilling rain, Japan was joined by representatives of most of the world's other nations to lay to rest its 124th emperor, Hirohito, the last in his line to have claimed divinity. Hirohito, who renounced his godship after presiding over Japan's defeat in the Second World War, died on Jan. 7 at age 87, the last of the wartime leaders, after 62 years on the Chrysanthemum Throne. His 85-year-old widow, the Empress Dowager Nagako, was too frail to leave the Imperial Palace.

Police, who seized two men when they jumped in front of the funeral cortege shouting anti-emperor slogans—the way also had to be cleared of debris from a suspected time-bomb explosion—estimated that almost 600,000 people quietly lined the 46-km route from the palace to the imperial cemetery. Fifty-five heads of state, including Canada's governor general, Jeanne Sauvé, were among the official mourners led by Hirohito's son and successor, Emperor Akihito, 55, who has proclaimed that his reign is to be named Heisei, the era of achieving peace. □





Arens (left), Shevardnadze: a campaign to get old enemies on speaking terms

THE MIDDLE EAST

Divided together

The Soviets press a new peace initiative

As the host of Middle East peace talks, Egypt's foreign minister Esmat Abdel Meguid spent an exhausting week. He travelled back and forth to the Cairo airport half a dozen times and attended at least as many conferences and press briefings. To comply with political sensitivities, his three guests had to be installed in separate accommodations. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze stayed at his country's embassy overlooking the Nile, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens checked into a suburban hotel and Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), took rooms in a government rest house. As motorcades criss-crossed the capital, some observers gleefully expressed hope that Israel's hard-line diplomat might run into his Arab nemesis, Arafat. But careful planning by Meguid managed to keep apart the two men, who held separate meetings with Shevardnadze on Feb. 22. And when—after 2½ hours of private talks with the Soviet foreign minister—a reporter asked Arens how he felt about "sharing a stage" with Arafat, the Israeli minister snapped: "I'm not sharing the stage with anybody."

Arens's sharp remark underlined the tone of his historic meeting with Shevardnadze. The Soviet diplomat had hoped to persuade Israel to accept his plan for a United Nations-sponsored international peace conference—endorsed by Syria, Jordan and Egypt—which would include representatives of the PLO. But Arens deflected the overture, reiterating Israel's insistence on direct talks with Arab neighbors—and no negotiations with the PLO. Still, the two men agreed to continue their dialogue—the most dramatic development of the Kremlin's Middle East peace campaign since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power four years ago. Indeed, the Soviet initiative held out not only the promise of restored diplomatic ties with Israel—severed after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war—but the prospect of supplanting the United States as the chief superpower mediator in the Middle East conflict. "Without goodwill on the part of Israel, there can be no solution to the conflict," said Shevardnadze after the meeting. "But equally, without the Soviet Union, there can be no peace process."

Shevardnadze assured Arens that his proposed international conference would not try to impose solutions on Israel. But after a later three-hour meeting with Arafat, he made it clear that, whatever framework was eventually agreed for negotiations, Israel could not avoid dealing with the PLO. Shevardnadze added that only when Israel agreed to take part in an international conference with the PLO could Moscow restore "full diplomatic relations."

But in Tel Aviv, hard-line Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said that Moscow must first restore relations before it can join in the search for a regional peace. And upon his return from Cairo, Arens rejected direct talks with the PLO, which he called "an obstacle to peace."

Shevardnadze's peace drive seemed to catch Washington off guard. President George Bush at first tried to play down any suggestion that the Cairo talks constituted a Soviet challenge to U.S. dominance in Middle East diplomacy. "I don't want to send somebody just charging off on a mission to counter Mr. Shevardnadze's trip," he said. But in Tokyo two days later, for the funeral of Japanese Emperor Hirohito, Bush swiftly opened talks with three Middle East leaders—Jordan's King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Israeli President Chaim Herzog—in an effort to regain the momentum.

While Shevardnadze talked to Arens in Cairo, a campaign to influence Israeli opinion was also being waged in Jerusalem. Middle East expert Andrey Shoumikhin, the first Soviet official in 22 years to address a public forum in Israel, urged the Jewish state at a peace symposium to begin a dialogue with the PLO. And about 600 conference participants viewed a dramatic videotape—smuggled into Israel—in which PLO deputy leader Salah Khalaf called for a Palestinian state to be set up alongside Israel and appealed for talks "secretly, openly or in any other way." Khalaf, who masterminded the Black September slaughter of Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics, declared: "Does any Israeli really believe in his heart that it is possible to destroy five million Palestinians? We have asked a similar question of ourselves and have concluded that we cannot destroy the Israelis." He added, "The realistic solution, therefore, is that we live side by side and that we walk the path of peace."

Soviet delegate Radomir Bogdanov, who teaches international affairs at the Moscow State Institute, told *Maclean's* in Jerusalem last week that the main goal of Soviet foreign policy is to defuse regional conflicts so that Moscow can concentrate on domestic problems. "Now, almost all regional conflicts have been solved," he said. "What is left? Only the Middle East, which has been poisoning the international environment for so many years." Before leaving Cairo last week, Shevardnadze dismissed the notion of a superpower "rivalry" for diplomatic dominance in the region. "If the United States can single-handedly resolve all the issues in the Middle East, we would applaud that," he said. "But no country in the world can do that. There must be a collective effort."

ANDREW BILSKI *with* **ERIC SILVER** *in Jerusalem and* **MAX RODENBECK** *in Cairo*

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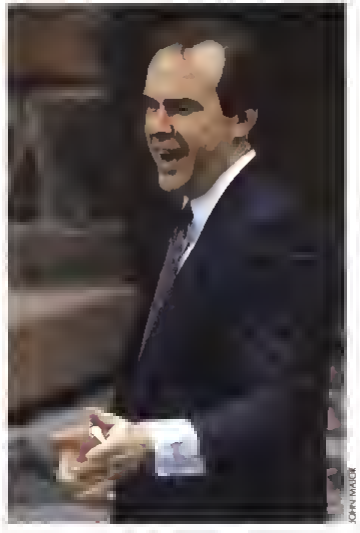
NDP GOVERNMENTS BUILT THE CROWN COMPANIES THAT THE TORIES NOW WANT TO SELL OFF

In one of Canadian history's least likely twists, Saskatchewan, the cradle of Canadian socialism, is rapidly becoming a symbol of free enterprise. Ever since Tommy Douglas became premier at the head of Canada's first socialist government in 1944, he and his successors in the New Democratic Party aggressively used Crown corporations to spearhead economic development. But, now, Saskatchewan's Conservative premier, Grant Devine, is selling off some of the province's largest publicly owned corporations and he has made it the dominant economic and political issue in the province. And his private-sector gospel is not limited to Saskatchewan. Last week Devine returned from a month-long trip to Asia, including stops in Hong Kong and Tokyo, where he tried to find investors willing to buy into the Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan (PCS)—the largest monument to NDP economic policy in the province.

Devine has left little to chance in his privatization campaign. He imported a British strategist and held a long series of public meetings to explain the initiative, and just to get the public used to investing in Crown corporations, the government floated huge bond issues in two Crown corporations. Since his re-election in 1987, the province has sold almost $700 million in assets, and now plans are almost final to sell another $1.5 billion worth, including the giant PCS and the Saskatchewan Mining Development Corp. Devine says that money raised from the sale will be used to erase part of the $3.3 billion in annual deficits that Saskatchewan has accumulated. But critics say that the premier is blinded by ideology and that his actions will erode the province's economy.

The biggest political battle will be over potash. The pink-and-white-colored ore, which is used around the world in fertilizer, has been an emotional issue in the province for years. Premier Allan Blakeney successfully started to nationalize the industry in 1976 when U.S. firms controlling the sector refused to expand production. The PCS now operates five mines and has assets of about $1 billion. It is the largest potash company outside of the Soviet Union, and, because the PCS was the flagship of the former NDP government's fleet of Crown corporations, it is an important political and historic symbol. That is an image the Tory strategists say they must eliminate if they are to carry out a successful privatization plan.

As the debate over the potash sell-off rages, government strategists say that Devine will have to remind taxpayers that the PCS has lost millions of dollars while convincing potential investors that the giant mining firm can still succeed. There are signs that he will be able to manage that. After losing $103 million in 1986 and another $28 million in 1987, PCS executives are projecting a profit for 1988. But even if the firm does turn the corner, it will be largely because of the fact that the government two years ago assumed $662 million in the PCS's long-term debt to make the corporation attractive to investors. And Devine regularly points out that the province is paying $220,000 a day merely to service that debt. But at least one leading potash industry analyst said that the issue will be popular. Said John Douglas a fertilizer industry analyst with Douglas Associates in Florence, Ala.: "The damn thing will be oversubscribed immediately."



Devine: claims that the sale will reduce debt

The government is also attempting to privatize the world's largest uranium producer. Last year, Ottawa and the province merged the federally owned Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. and the Saskatoon-based Saskatchewan Mining Development Corp. to create Cameco-A Canadian Mining & Energy Corp., with assets of $1.5 billion. Now the government wants to sell its position in Cameco through a share issue in the new firm. Like the PCS, the Crown mining corporation was an NDP policy instrument. Chartered in 1974, it was given the mandate to become a major developer in the province's booming mining sector—particularly uranium. And it was given the right to purchase 50 per cent of new mines in the province. Mining analysts say that Cameco may ultimately be a good buy because it has become profitable since its merger.

As part of its privatization effort, Devine's government is pushing a parallel political agenda aimed at winning popular support. Before embarking on the outright privatization of Crown corporations, the government first offered public participation through the sale of interest-bearing bonds in two major publicly owned firms. If investors make money on the bonds, some government strategists predict that Saskatchewan residents will be reluctant to oppose a share offering.

As well, since late last fall, the province has staged 17 weekly town hall-style meetings to explain the share issue. And to help plot its course on privatization, Devine brought in a leading strategist from Britain on contract as a private consultant. Oliver Letwin, 30, a former domestic-policy adviser to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who now heads the privatization unit for N. M. Rothschilds Bank of London, has been a "public participation" consultant for the province since January, 1988. Letwin said that privatization will not prevent the government from achieving the same social and economic objectives that NDP leaders insisted could only be achieved through public ownership. He argued that through legislation, including tax policy, the province can still influence the private sector.

And the government also needs the revenue from the sales. Since taking power, the Devine government has spent almost $3.3 billion more than it has collected in revenues. Finance Minister Gary Lane said that he wants to erase most of the red ink by balancing his budget before the next provincial election, which is expected in 1990. As well, Michael Walker, executive director of The Fraser Institute, a free-market think-tank in Vancouver, said that if the sales move ahead, not only will the province reap $1.5 billion, but taxpayers will also gain because they will no longer have to support the sometimes money losing Crown corporations.

Although the opposition NDP takes responsibility for creating most of the province's Crown corporations in the name of public participation, they argue that it is the Devine Tories who are now blinded by ideology. Said NDP Leader Roy Romanow, a central figure in the Blakeney government's nationalization of the potash industry: "The Devine government is simply privatizing for the sake of privatization." And if the PCS share issue sells out, the NDP's pride in its list of Crown corporations could well become history.

TOM FENNELL *with* DALE EISLER *in Regina*

Business Notes

STEEL-RAIL BLUES
The U.S. commerce department announced a tentative duty of 103.5 per cent on imports of steel rails manufactured by Nova Scotia's Crown-owned Sydney Steel Corp. In the first preliminary ruling since the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement took effect in January, the department alleged that the company benefits from substantial federal and provincial subsidies.

AN INQUIRY WRAPS UP
Public testimony at the court-ordered inquiry into the June, 1987, collapse of two Edmonton-based Principal Group Ltd. subsidiaries ended in the Alberta capital. A lawyer representing 67,000 investors who lost more than $110 million said that funds from the two companies were funnelled to Principal founder Donald Cormie and his family. Cormie's lawyer, Robert Duke, concluded by saying that public allegations of fraud at the inquiry had done "irreparable damage" to his client's reputation.

INFLATION LOWERS MARKETS
Stock markets on Wall Street and Bay Street plunged in response to the announcement that the annual inflation rate in the United States soared to 7.2 per cent in January, its highest level in two years.

A BREWING TEST
Investment Canada announced that it will review the proposed merger of Molson Breweries of Canada Ltd. and Australian-owned Carling O'Keefe Breweries of Canada Ltd. to determine whether or not the foreign component will benefit Canadians. The proposed union between the second- and third-largest breweries in the country is also being reviewed by the Bureau of Competition Policy to determine if it restricts business.

SHEDDING HOLDINGS
Uranium giant Denison Mines Ltd. of Toronto said that it plans to sell $500 million worth of oil and gas holdings accumulated during the 1970s by its then-chairman, Stephen Roman (who died in 1988).

IMPERIAL DEAL CLOSES
Imperial Oil completed its $5-billion purchase of Texaco Canada on Feb. 24 after Industry Minister Harvie Andre gave approval under foreign investment rules. Investment Canada approved the merger when Imperial Oil Ltd. agreed to sell off oil and gas properties worth at least $550 million.



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Kohl: fearing inflation caused by growth, Germany has raised interest rates

Cracks in the G7 front

The Group of Seven faces growing tensions

It was a short-lived show of harmony. After the seven leading industrial nations convened in Washington early in February, their economic representatives carefully presented a united front of agreement. World economies were surprisingly strong, they said, and huge trade imbalances would continue to ease without drastic measures. But now, cracks have begun to appear, especially between the United States and other members of the so-called Group of Seven (G7). Skeptics among the group have been expressing concern that President George Bush's first budget, presented on Feb. 9, will not significantly reduce the country's $170-billion annual budget deficit. Bush will have to take a stronger position on the deficit if the group's next meeting, scheduled for Washington in April, is to be as smooth as February's, some G7 members said last week. Added economics professor Jeffrey Frankel of Harvard University: "U.S. policymakers are forced to listen more politely and pay attention because we are a debtor country now and have to listen."

Some economists say that the deficit does not pose an economic threat and must be cast against other large economic issues. But a failure of co-operation among the group—made up of the United States, Japan, Britain, West Germany, France, Italy and Canada—to agree on the deficit could threaten the stability of world economies. Agreements among the seven help to sustain currencies at agreed levels, moderate interest rates and resolve trading disputes. But some economists say that the power of the G7 to balance the competing domestic demands of its members could be reaching its limits.

The U.S. position on deficit financing has sparked controversy among members of the group for years. The Americans' federal budget deficit is inflationary, other group members say. As well, the U.S. trade deficit remains stubbornly high, despite a 50-per-cent devaluation of the greenback since 1985—a strategy taken by the group to help make U.S. exports more attractive. Said Michael Miller, director of research with the economic forecaster The WEFA Group in Toronto: "The G7 have done a great deal since 1985, but what is left? We see the trade imbalance as an intractable problem."

Some Americans, however, say that G7 concerns about the deficit ignore the economic expansion that it creates. Paul Craig Roberts, fellow with the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies, said that the American deficit has been used as a political excuse to lecture the United States. Said Roberts: "If other members of the Group of Seven are going to run an export-based growth policy, they can't complain about our deficit."

The critical issue, most economists say, is whether individual members of the group can be persuaded to undertake measures that they have resisted in the past. For countries with trade surpluses, including Japan and West Germany, that would involve opening their econo-

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mies to imports from countries that have trade deficits—particularly the United States. To help right the imbalance, the United States has demanded that Japan and West Germany stimulate their economies, creating a greater demand for American exports.

Both those countries have taken some steps in that direction, but they are reluctant to go further because they fear causing inflation and weakened currencies. Said Frankel: "Germany would go into shock at the thought of losing one-third of its trade surplus." Japan, by contrast, is more resigned to the necessity of reducing its trade surplus, currently at $65 billion.

But those countries also insist that the United States has not fulfilled its part of the bargain. The Americans have shown little inclination to face the hardships associated with deficit reduction—less spending and higher taxes. The Bush budget has been widely criticized as an unrealistic attempt to reduce government debt without alienating voters. Said Robert Boaz, chief economist at Deacon Morgan McEwen Easson Ltd. in Toronto: "The American deficit could actually go up in 1989 because the budget assumes strong growth and low inflation." Instead, Boaz said, most economists are predicting slower growth in the coming year, together with a hike in interest rates. Higher rates would add to the cost of servicing the deficit. Said Boaz: "Bush's deficit-reduction plan is therefore losing credibility."

In other countries, anger toward the United States' failure to cut spending is clearly growing. Said John Williamson, senior fellow at the Washington-based Institute for International Economics: "There is a very clear perception by countries other than the U.S. that it is not doing enough to cut the deficit." Further devaluations in the dollar will not work, he said, because American industries are already operating at capacity. They would not be able to satisfy greater demand for American exports.

And although some analysts argue that the deficit is not inflationary, the Americans are under pressure to raise taxes to cut the deficit. Said Williamson: "G7 countries are angry with Bush's insistence that taxes won't go up."

Officials from other G7 countries have also expressed concern about the unexpectedly strong growth of their economies. Strong growth can lead to inflation, a possibility that particularly alarms West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Although the German rate of inflation is forecast at only 2.5 per cent this year, up from 1.6 per cent in December, the Bundesbank—Germany's central bank—has raised interest rates by a full percentage point since last fall. Said Lloyd Atkinson, chief economist at the Bank of Montreal: "The Germans err on the side of restraint, but it is only a matter of time before the Japanese raise their rates too."

Rate increases around the world could stall American attempts to reduce the deficit by slowing growth and raising debt-servicing costs. Last week, the threat of higher rates in North America grew when the United States announced a higher-than-expected 0.6-per-cent increase in consumer prices for January. Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan said that the increase was "disturbing," a signal that American interest rates may rise to counter the trend. And in Canada, Bank of Canada governor John Crow has backed up promises to keep inflation under control by pushing the bank rate to a three-year high of 11.86 per cent.

Still, some G7 members said last week that concerns over rate hikes have been exaggerated. Helmut Henschel of the Westdeutsche Landesbank in Düsseldorf, for one, played down the current interest-rate spiral. Said Henschel: "We get the strong impression that the central banks have decided to sit tight for a while to see if their recent monetary squeezes are going to work." Clearly, the Group of Seven members face growing tensions unless they can resolve their competing domestic concerns. Failure to do so could throw the world economy into a period of instability that none of them would welcome.

PATRICIA CRISHOLM *with PETER LEWIS in Brussels and WILLIAM LOWTHER in Washington*



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STANDARD LIFE



The honeymoon will end on budget night

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Corporate taxes will rise significantly in the second Mulroney administration's first budget, due in April. The same document will proclaim some of the meanest cost-cutting measures ever attempted by a Canadian government. The new austerity program will slash not only new spending, but each department's core budget, privatization of public assets will be accelerated to help stem the deficit. There is even a vague possibility that universal welfare plans will be reviewed, with the objective of eventually replacing them with some form of guaranteed annual income.

The cuts will hit areas of daily concern. The only choice is whether to work across the board or cherry-pick at individual programs

Those are some of the options being considered by Michael Wilson and his senior finance department officials as they draw up the budget working papers. They face the unenviable task of trying to keep the 1989-1990 deficit to $28 billion or less. There is no gentle way they can accomplish that. The authoritative C.D. Howe Institute last week predicted that Canada will face an economic calamity unless it can cut $4 billion a year from the deficit into 1993. The newly established Expenditure Review Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, is supervising the proposed slashes, with Mulroney's chief of staff, former deputy finance minister Stanley Hartt, co-ordinating the operation.

The cruel scale of the expenditure cuts is illustrated by the downsizing that is occurring at the B.C. region of the Indian Affairs branch. In its fourth year of a five-year staff-reduction plan, the branch will have 50 per cent fewer employees by the end of 1990.

There is a lot of argument these days about how much economic damage a high deficit really inflicts. But there is no argument about the fiscal trap in which the Mulroney government finds itself. Ottawa spent just over $132 billion last year, and more than $90 billion of that total included $32 billion in interest payments on the national debt and about $58 billion in transfer payments either to provinces or individuals in the form of such programs as medicare, unemployment insurance, family allowances, postsecondary education grants and equalization payments.

Because those are statutory expenditures that cannot be readily dismantled, that leaves about $42 billion for everything else the government does. The deepest cuts will hit the areas of daily concern, and the only choices currently being debated are whether to institute across-the-board cuts or to cherry-pick individual programs.

Although Mulroney must bear the political consequences, the problem is not of his making. During its first term, his government kept annual budget spending increases to just under five per cent, barely one point higher than the prevailing inflation rate during that period, while the rate of expenditures under the previous decade of Trudeau rule had shot up by an annual rate of 12 per cent. In the century between the day Sir John A. Macdonald was sworn in as Canada's first prime minister to July 1, 1967, our accumulated national debt—including the cost of building the CPR and fighting two world wars—totalled $28 billion. After 16 years of Trudeau rule, it had ballooned to $199 billion and now totals $322 billion. The cost of servicing the Canadian debt now runs at about 27 per cent of total federal spending—but with the return of inflation and higher interest rates, that proportion will rise sharply. (A one-per-cent jump in interest rates could increase the deficit by as much as $3 billion.) Apart from inflation, the government also faces contract demands from 150,000 militant public servants, who have not had a raise for two years.

Further privatization of government assets will provide the quickest deficit fix. Petro-Canada, the nonrailway assets of CN and the balance of Air Canada, soon to be on the market for about $11.5 billion. The toughest decision will be whether to touch the universal social welfare programs, especially after the Mulroney government's disastrous attempt to deindex pensions in 1985 and his repeated promise that, even with free trade, he would hold such programs sacrosanct.

A recent Economic Council of Canada study, however, showed that only $20 billion of the $33 billion spent on such programs goes to the people who actually need the money. The alternative would be a guaranteed-annual-income plan directing more money to families earning less than $20,000 a year, while those in higher brackets would be cut off—including, one hopes, the Montreal millionaire who married his son's beautiful young babysitter, started a new family and now receives both his old-age pension and the baby bonus.

The only alternative to this political minefield is to raise taxes. But even there, Wilson is hemmed in by past promises and current circumstances. The value-added sales tax (which will replace the lower and much less pervasive federal levy on manufactured goods) will certainly be in the budget, although it is not due to start until 1991. But, only three months ago, the finance minister swore up and down the hustings that his new sales tax would be "revenue neutral"—so there can't be much budget-balancing ammunition there. Wilson cannot raise personal taxes much because they are already higher than in the United States, and under free trade our best and brightest would pick up and move south of the border.

And so the choices narrow to raising corporate taxes. That will take several forms. Ottawa has been allocating about $30 billion a year in so-called tax expenditures—all kinds of tax shelters, special grants, incentive plans and straight-out loopholes that allow some of Canada's largest corporations to avoid taxes.

That free ride is about to end. According to a *Globe and Mail* survey published last week, profits of Canadian companies were up by 59 per cent last year, with many net incomes (up an amazing 99 per cent) and the banks (49 per cent) leading the way. Those and other industries are a natural target, particularly because corporate taxes now account for only 15.6 per cent of federal revenues, down from 26.2 per cent in the mid-1970s.

A temporary excess-profits tax is being mused about, as is the idea of treating capital gains as income, unless assets are held for the long term. No final decisions have been made, except that the political cost of resolving Canada's fiscal crisis is worth the risk. The Mulroney honeymoon will end on budget night.

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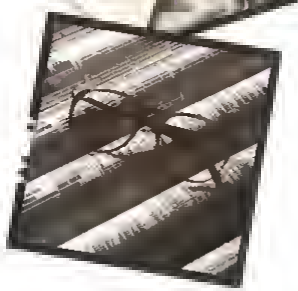
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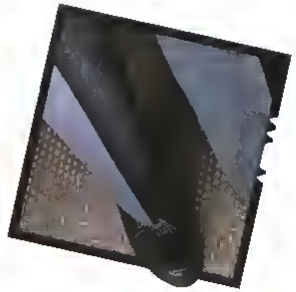
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PEOPLE

AT HOME WITH ALIENS

For actress Lynda Mason Green, home has become a small trailer on a Toronto set surrounded by aliens. The 32-year-old Sarnia, Ont., native, who plays a microbiologist in the internationally syndicated TV science-fiction fantasy series *War of the Worlds*, is on the set from early morning until late at night during the nine months of filming. But after spending 15 years struggling to make a living as an actress in Toronto, Green says that the long hours are a relief. Still, the single actress acknowledges that the demands of her job force her to put her personal life on hold. Said Green: "I only go to my house to sleep."



Green: struggling to make a living

Close call

During his three-day visit to St Lucia last week, **Prince Charles** just missed a regal dunking. Charles, 40, on hand for the island's 10th-anniversary celebrations of independence from Britain, was waiting to board a 61-foot catamaran when it capsized in a sudden 45-m p h gust. The boat had to be towed to port, leaving Charles to cool his heels for 45 minutes until another vessel arrived. Still, Charles—travelling without his wife, **Diana**, who last month visited New York City alone renewing speculation of marital discord—was fortunate to escape any other royal squalls.



Charles: travelling without Diana

JUNGLE FEVER

Tough-guy actor Nick Nolte said that it seemed like a good idea at the time. To acclimatize himself to filming in the hot and humid jungles of Borneo, Malaysia, Nolte, 49, went on a two-day trek into the heart of the island's rain forest before beginning work on the adventure movie Farewell to the King, *which opens this week. Still, the actor—who said that he spent a night drinking "potent" rice wine with a local Iban tribe—suffered from common afflictions of the jungle, such as parasitic infections and dysentery. Yet director John Milius, who wrote the screenplay for the 1979 movie* Apocalypse Now, *said that Nolte worked to schedule despite losing 30 lb. during the shoot. Added the director: "I don't tolerate any complaints on the set."*

SAME LINES, NEW LAUGHS

He says that he knows the movie frame by frame, but Montreal film-maker Yves Simaneau still sees it at least four times a day. It is his own movie, *the comic adventure In the Belly of the Dragon*, which is breaking box-office records in Quebec for a locally made film. Simoneau, 33, director of the popular 1986 thriller *Intimate Power*, says that he observes the audience to understand the movie's appeal. He added, "People are laughing more than I expected and feeling more emotion than I ever hoped."

Musical notes

Country singer **k. d. lang** says that the late **Roy Orbison**, the legendary singer who helped her win a Grammy award last week, was "much like a tree." The 27-year-old from Consort, Alta., won the American music industry's best country music collaboration award for her remake of *Crying*, recorded last year with Orbison, who died suddenly of a heart attack in December at age 52. Said lang: "He was very giving and very, very solid." Lang, the only Canadian Grammy winner, lost in the best female country vocalist contest to **K. T. Oslin**, 46, who declared: "Yes, I'm good. I deserve this." But the biggest winners were more humble. Boston folksinger **Tracy Chapman**, 24, thanked her family as she collected three Grammys, including best female pop vocalist. For his part, San Francisco jazz singer **Bobby McFerrin**, 38, said of his four trophies, "They don't mean that much to me." Still, McFerrin did have some solace to offer the losers. his winning song of the year, *Don't Worry, Be Happy*.



Lang: 'very giving and very, very solid'



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THE CHER EFFECT

CHER HAS EMERGED AS PROBABLY THE MOST FASCINATING MOVIE STAR OF HER GENERATION

Dressed entirely in black—black leather jacket and crushed velvet skirt, black stockings and boots—Cher emanates the aura of stardom. Still, the figure perched on the end of the long beige sofa in her New York City apartment seems strikingly different from the image that she projects on movie screens. The huge, expressionless eyes set in an impassive oval face are familiar enough. But the woman who in the past three years has graduated from mere celebrity to superstardom seems so *small* in person. Still recovering from an attack of flu, the five-foot, seven inch star is slender, with almost translucently pale skin and tiny hands and feet that contribute to an impression of fragility. In conversation, she is strangely still, seldom moving her hands or raising her voice. But when she speaks, the words are vintage Cher, filled with the edgy bluntness that has made her one of Hollywood's most outrageous and fascinating stars. "I don't feel that I am here to be liked," she told *Maclean's*. "Certainly, if you make a personal statement as big as the one I seem to make, then a lot of people aren't going to like you." Now, Cher's career is expanding in other directions.

Next month, she will be in Toronto to begin work on her next movie, Orion Pictures Corp.'s *Mermaids*. Scheduled to be directed by Lasse Hallström (*My Life as a Dog*), with Cher and British actress Emily Lloyd in leading roles, the movie will deal with the relationship of an itinerant mother and her two illegitimate daughters during the 1960s. At the same time, there were plans for the throaty-voiced Cher to record a new album during 1989 and the theme song for *Chances Are*, a movie starring Cybill Shepherd that is scheduled to be released this month. And some time this spring, Cher is also scheduled to appear in a major downtown Toronto department store to promote a new perfume.

In that, she will join a long list of stars who now promote their own toiletries and other products (page 46). Cher helped concoct a perfume, called Cher Uninhibited, that New York-based Parfums Stern Inc. put on the market last November.

Magnetic: The 42-year-old black-haired beauty of Armenian, French and Cherokee descent who began her career in the mid-1960s as part of the determinedly hip pop-singing duo Sonny and Cher has emerged as probably the most fascinating movie star of her generation. During a highly successful career that has made her a celebrity—first as a singer and television personality, then as a glitzy Las Vegas nightclub performer, and finally as an actress with a magnetic presence on the screen—she has managed to be at once boldly shocking and ultimately enigmatic.

Critics have accused her of being vulgar for the blatantly revealing clothes that she often wears. And in a May, 1986 appearance on NBC TV's *Late Night With David Letterman* show, some viewers expressed shock after she called the show's sardonic host an "asshole." But Cher's witty Oscar-winning performance as a love-smitten middle-aged woman in Canadian director Norman Jewison's 1987 film, *Moonstruck*, proved that she is also a movie actress of considerable skill and sensitivity—and it established her among the handful of Hollywood actresses who can command multi-million-dollar film contracts.

Despite achieving the stardom that she had craved since she was a young girl, Cher's life has included considerable tribulation. Like the character she portrayed in *Moonstruck*, she has formed a close relationship with a young Italian-American. At 24, Robert Camilletti is the latest of the younger men that she has favored since the breakup of her marriage to Sonny Bono 14 years ago (page 44). But the publicity surrounding her relationship with a man 18 years younger than she, particularly the persistent attention of reporters and photographers from the tabloid press has troubled her. "I don't expect these people to go through my garbage and crawl over my fence," she told *Maclean's* in an interview last month. "And then for people to say that I'm just looking for publicity anyway doesn't make sense to me. But I also know the rules. Privacy and my business just don't get along very well."

Exhibitionist: Still, some of her stunning success is a result of her ability to attract attention. "What's interesting about Cher," said David Edelstein, movie critic for the *New York Post*, "is that she has no conception of privacy. She's an exhibitionist, and I don't mean that in a negative way. She projects honesty, rawness and emotionality. She wears her vulnerability on her sleeve." Added Jeffrey Sagansky, production president at New York-based Tri-Star Pictures Inc.: "She's unconventional in that she says and does what we all wish we could do. She'll poke fun at herself. No female film star has her flamboyance. She's more like a rock star than a film actress." And there is another element—exotic and elusive—that contributes to Cher's top-ranking star quality. Said David Denby, movie critic for *New York* magazine: "She has a look that is odd, a bit oriental and snaky. That's the traditional definition of a Hollywood star—that you always want to see more."



MONTE ISAACS/SYGMA

Crowded: The power of Cher's appeal was dramatically evident last November, when Uninhibited made its debut on the New York market. When she made a personal appearance at Macy's department store to promote the perfume, nearly 10,000 fans crowded around the store to see her. In the two-month period before Christmas, Uninhibited quickly became one of the top three best-selling perfumes in the 250 stores across the United States where it was available, accounting for $12 million in sales. Said Robert Brady, general manager of Parfums Stern Inc.: "Everybody just wants to have a piece of Cher."

There is also a quality of menacing toughness in Cher, which was clear last month during a meeting in the star's three-storey apartment on Manhattan's lower East Side. Two Parfums Stern officials presented her with proofs of a magazine advertisement. Cher, who had previously approved the photography, evidently was surprised by the final result. When she quietly asked, "Where did you get this?" a shudder of anxiety seemed to pass through the room. Then, as she left to go up to the second floor of her apartment, those remaining began arguing over what had gone wrong. One executive furiously told another, "If I could put my hands around your throat . . ."

The affluence and power that Cher has achieved contrasts sharply with the humble, and at times threadbare, surroundings of her early



GLOBE PHOTOS

In Moonstruck with Vincent Gardenia and Olympia Dukakis: skill, sensitivity

SHE HAS SHOWN NO SIGN OF SLOWING HER RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF SUCCESS

life. Born on May 20, 1946, in El Centro, Calif., 300 km southeast of Los Angeles, Cheryl Sarkisian grew up thinking that her name was "Cherilyn"—the name that her family and closest friends call her. (When she legally changed her name to Cher in 1975, she discovered that the name on her birth certificate was actually Cheryl.) Her mother, Georgia Holt, a former part-time model and actress, was married eight times—three times to Cher's father, John Sarkisian. Cher recalls that Sarkisian, who died in 1985, was "a gambler and a drug addict." She added, "That's not exactly a profession, but that's what he did." Holt's numerous marriages and Sarkisian's aimless way of life led to frequent changes of address and periods of poverty for the family, which included Cher's half-sister, Georganne LaPiere. At one point, Cher briefly lived in a charitable institution for homeless children while her mother worked at an all-night restaurant, and she recalls going to school with elastic bands holding her shoes together.

Launch: Restless and unhappy, she left school after Grade 10 when she was 16 and moved in with a girlfriend whose next-door neighbor was an engaging 27-year-old man named Sonny Bono. Cher later recalled that Bono put a proposal to her: "Look, I don't find you particularly attractive and I have no designs on you. I'd like you to move in with me and keep the house clean and cook. I'll pay the rent." She accepted the offer, which would ultimately help to launch her show-business career. At the time, Bono was working as a junior assistant to Phil Spector, the legendary record producer who presided over 1960s hits for such groups as the Ronettes and the Righteous Brothers.

One day in 1964, while Cher was waiting for Bono at a recording studio, Spector asked her to fill in for a missing back-up singer. Cher, who was hoping for a break into show business, gladly obliged. Later that year, Sonny and Cher launched their career as a singing duo. Their fortunes soared when *I Got You Babe*, a song written by Bono, sold more than four million copies after it was released in 1965. They followed up with several more hits. But their musical success proved short-lived as new styles in rock music overwhelmed their low-key approach. As a result, they decided to make a movie entitled *Chastity*, which Bono produced. The movie, which did poorly at the box office, was memorable largely for the fact that it had the same name as the baby Cher was expecting during filming. Her daughter, Chastity, was born in 1969 (now 20, Chastity is currently studying film herself as a student at Manhattan's New York University).

Profitable: The couple's luck improved again when Fred Silverman, then chief of programming for the New York-based CBS television network, saw them during a 1970 guest appearance on *The Merv Griffin Show*. Griffin asked them to do a pilot for a summer replacement show. As a result, *The Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour* made its debut in 1971—and ran for four seasons until poor ratings took it off the air temporarily in 1974. The television show led to a profitable partnership between Cher and Bob Mackie, the Los Angeles designer who still creates the eye-popping and often outrageous fashions that have helped make them both famous. By the time the *Sonny and Cher* show died, relations between the two stars had also deteriorated, leading to their eventual divorce in 1975. Later, Cher had her own briefly successful television show—*Cher*, which ran on the CBS television network from February, 1975, to January, 1976. Later that year, Sonny and Cher also reunited professionally for a two-season reprise of their television show back on NBC.

In The Witches of Eastwick with Jack Nicholson: boldly shocking and outrageous



Cher next plunged into singing in Las Vegas, earning as much as $350,000 a week. Meanwhile, she was still determined to become an actress, even though few Hollywood producers or directors bothered to answer her telephone calls. Recalled Cher: "I just wanted to try it, I didn't like the idea of someone saying, 'We've decided you can't do this other thing.'"

Cherished: Cher finally received her long-cherished break into acting when Robert Altman (*Nashville*, *M*A*S*H*) offered her the role of Sissy, a small-town tart who attends a reunion of a fan club dedicated to the memory of movie star James Dean in Altman's 1982 off-Broadway production of Ed Graczyk's play *Come Back to the 5 & Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*. Although critics were unenthusiastic about the play, Cher received rave reviews. She was later in Altman's 1982 movie version.

While the play was running in New York, director Mike Nichols went backstage and offered Cher a supporting role in his movie *Silkwood*. Released in 1984, *Silkwood* starred Meryl Streep in the role of Karen Silkwood, a nuclear-power-plant worker who died mysteriously after attempting to expose her employer's safety infractions. Cher's role as Dolly Pelliker, Silkwood's lesbian roommate, required her to appear without makeup and wear several layers of underwear to make her appear heavier. Recalled Cher: "The first day I put on Dolly's clothes, I started to cry. I wanted to look a little bit better." Still, the part won Cher an Academy Award nomination for best supporting actress.

Groupie: Cher's next movie role was in director Peter Bogdanovich's 1985 *Mask*. In it, Cher delivered a grittily convincing performance as Rusty Dennis, a real-life California motorcycle-gang groupie whose teenage son, Rocky, suffered from craniodiaphyseal dysplasia, a disease that grossly disfigured his face and head.

By 1987, her movie career had begun to soar. She starred in three movies, appearing first with actor Jack Nicholson—a personal friend—in the horror-comedy film *The Witches of Eastwick*. Then, in an effort to prove that she could handle serious roles, Cher played a Washington, D.C., lawyer who defends an accused murderer in *Suspect*. But the third of her 1987 movies—Canadian director Norman Jewison's romantic comedy *Moonstruck*—has been her greatest success to date.



GLOBE PHOTOS

With Chastity and Bono: the real definition of a Hollywood star

Cher says that she almost passed up the chance to star in *Moonstruck* because she thought that the role of a middle-aged New York accountant who falls in love with a fiery young man working in an Italian bakery might not suit her. "She thought it was dicey," recalled *Moonstruck*'s Los Angeles-based producer, Patrick Palmer, who wanted Cher for the part. "The script was a little off-centre. It took many trips to her house and to New York to persuade her." On the set, added Palmer, Jewison wanted more Loretta—Cher's character—and less Cher. Said Palmer: "She gave Norman a run for his money." In the end, *Moonstruck* earned Cher the best-actress Oscar at last spring's Academy Awards presentation.

She now says that she looks back on 1987 as an exhausting period in her life. Besides making three movies, she recorded an album of songs entitled *Cher* and appeared in three videos based on tracks from the album—*I Found Someone*, *We All Sleep Alone* and *Main Man*. As well, Cher travelled to Europe four times during the year—three times to promote her movies and once to promote the album. "I will never do that again," she said. "I think I'm Superwoman but I know I'm not that strong. It was really stupid, but I had never done that before and it took doing it to realize that I should never do it again."

On Oscar night: talent and an ability to attract attention



MAYER/STAFF FILE

Relentless: Still, she has shown no sign of slowing down in her relentless pursuit of success. Part of Cher's hectic life is devoted to her two children, Chastity and 12-year-old Elijah Blue, the son from her second marriage, to rock musician Gregg Allman. Recently, Cher sold her 31-room Benedict Canyon house to comedian Eddie Murphy and is now looking for another site in the Los Angeles area. When she finds the right piece of land, she plans to build a house almost identical to the one she sold. "I loved that house a lot," explained Cher. "But I've finished with it and now I'm ready to go someplace else and start again. I'm not one for getting results. I like starting projects and doing them. I think that is why I keep switching my professions."

Her venture into the perfume business began after Michael Stern,

chairman of Parfums Stern, approached her last year. 'She was highly visible at the time," recalled Stern. "She had just received the Academy Award nomination, and I was surprised that she did not already have a perfume." According to Parfums Stern, market research showed that Cher's name was recognized by 96 per cent of those surveyed—the same percentage that knew who Ronald Reagan was.

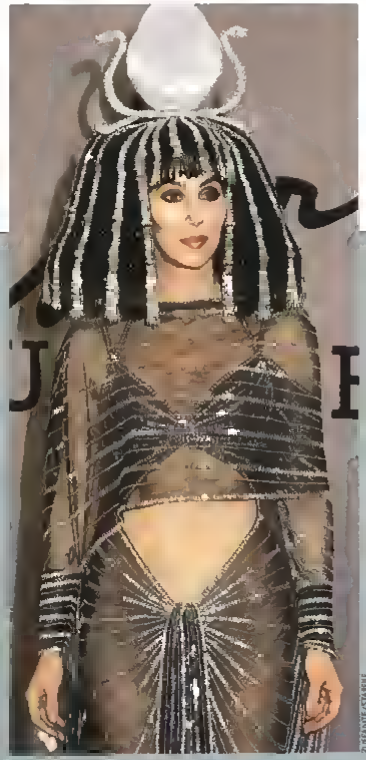
After signing a multimillion-dollar contract with Parfums Stern last April, she personally helped to choose the exotic floral and spicy scent that now carries her name. Uninhibited goes on sale in Canadian department stores this month at prices ranging from $36 for a 1½-ounce bottle of toilet water to $400 for a 1.65-ounce bottle of perfume.

At the pinnacle of her success, Cher is unrepentant over the incidents that have brought her the sharpest criticism. She told *Maclean's* that she insulted Letterman on the air "because he is such an asshole. He can be so mean and he thinks that his IQ is so much higher than most of his guests' that that gives him the right to trash them." Of her flamboyant clothes, Cher said, "I believe in my work. When I go out to do my work, I dress appropriately."

Looking back on her career, she says that the important changes never came about according to any plan but simply because each move seemed like a good idea at the time. "Everyone thinks you are on top of things if you happen to have a string of successes," she said, "but I never know what I am going to do." Still, she does have some definite goals in mind for her acting career. One is a determination to perform in roles that have an effect on the people who see her movies. When she first became famous as part of Sonny and Cher, she recalled that "I didn't like being famous for no reason. I would rather do something that touches fewer people more deeply."

Another goal is simply to keep acting as long as possible. Said Cher: "When you get to be a certain age, you don't get the parts. But there happens to be a whole lot of women right now in my age group and we're pushing with our fingers and toes and hands and everything so that we can still get the chance to do the thing that we like to do." After 25 years in the limelight, 25 years of proving people wrong when they told her what she could not do, Cher is not about to disappear quietly. And for millions of fascinated Cher-watchers that can only be a welcome development.

BARBARA WICKENS *with* *LARRY BLACK in New York City and ANNE GREGOR in Los Angeles*



At the perfume launch: ultimately enigmatic

CHER: IN HER OWN WORDS

In a relaxed and thoughtful mood Cher talked with Maclean's *Associate Editor Barbara Wickens in the star's apartment in Manhattan's Greenwich Village on Feb. 16. Among her observations:*

● **On acting:** My sister, Georganne, said to me—I think it was when *Mask* came out, I don't even think it was when *Silkwood* came out—"I'm so glad you're talented. I was so frightened you wouldn't be." It was exactly what I was thinking, too, because I had no idea that I was going to be talented. I just wanted to try it.

● **On the Academy Awards:** Meryl Streep told me once: You never do a part to win an Academy Award. It's just a great bonus." And I think that's the truth. Not that you don't wish for it—it's something really fabulous to get, and the moment you get it is unlike any moment in your entire life. It's like having a child. You don't know what to compare it to, and no one has given you any kind of instructions to know what to expect. It's just unbelievable.

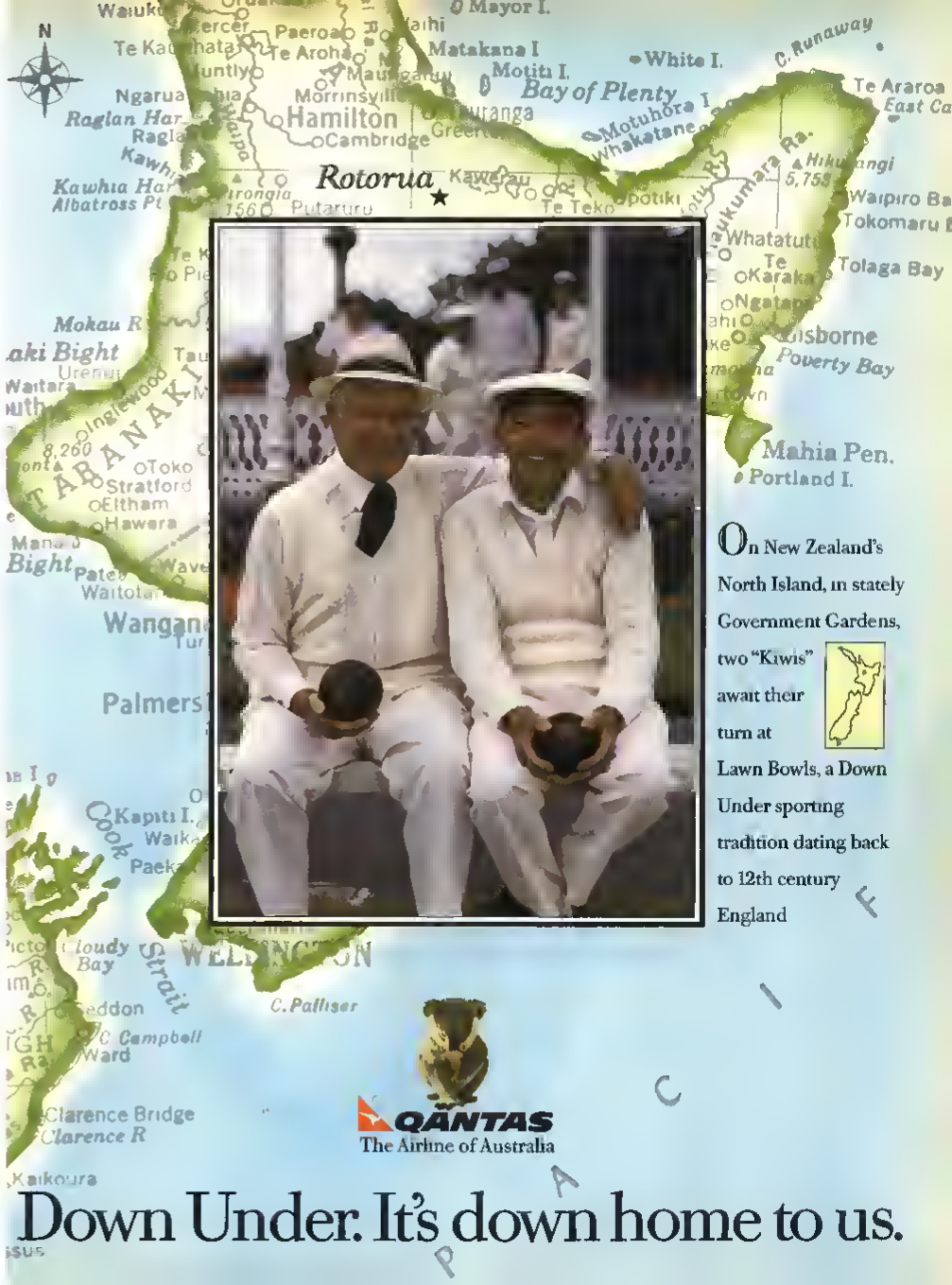
● **On fame:** When Robert [Camilletti] and I first got together, I was just making *The Witches of Eastwick* and we had a relatively long, happy time before any of the movies came out and when people didn't really care about me. It had been such a long time between *Mask* and *Witches*, everyone had kind of forgotten me. It's not fair that you can't keep much of your private life, but it is the way it is. It's also not fair that I can make more money in a year than some people make in their lifetime. It's just the way it is. I didn't make the rules.

● **On being a public personality:** I saw a photographer on television the other night who was saying, 'Oh, these people will do anything for publicity to sell their movies, and then they get angry when we take pictures of them.' I felt what he was saying was such a bastardization of what I do. I believe in my work. But I don't expect these people to give me no privacy—at least the same amount of privacy that any American deserves. That photographer also said that Michael J. Fox didn't have the right to a private wedding. I was wondering where it got so perverted, where it got so that we had no rights?

● **On Los Angeles:** Los Angeles is my home and so I've been friends with the same people my whole life. After the Academy Award I must say things changed. I remember the day afterward, Robert and I went to a place called Duke's—where I've been going my whole life—and people were stopping and yelling on the streets, 'Yea, Cher.' I've been famous my entire life. But when people look at me a certain way, it takes me a second to realize what they're doing. It takes me a minute to figure it out.

● **On drugs:** I just don't get it. I mean, the idea of going up to some guy on the street and buying drugs from him when you probably wouldn't take directions from him and putting some substance into your body that's going to eventually distort your life and kill just doesn't make any sense to me whatsoever. I'd rather start a bonfire and burn my money than do drugs.

● **On women:** I don't think I'm much of a feminist. I'm a woman's woman. I really like women. I really want to see them succeed. I really feel that, on one level, women have really been screwed. But I'd much rather be a woman. I think there's so much more opportunity in being a woman than there is in being a man. I like men a lot, but I just think we're better. I just think we've got more possibilities.



On New Zealand's North Island, in stately Government Gardens, two "Kiwis" await their turn at Lawn Bowls, a Down Under sporting tradition dating back to 12th century England.

QANTAS
The Airline of Australia

Down Under. It's down home to us.

SEEKING A PRIVATE PLACE

CHER DUCKS THE PUBLICITY GLARE

In a now-celebrated remark, Cher once compared the men in her life to luxuries. "You can have pound cake," she said, "or you can have chocolate mousse. They're both desserts—but one is so much more fun." For the most part, Cher seems to have selected chocolate mousse. From her 12-year relationship with her eventual husband, musician-songwriter Sonny Bono, through later, sometimes-tempestuous relationships with renegade rock musician Gregg Allman, actor Val Kilmer and Gene Simmons—bass guitarist of the heavy-metal rock band Kiss—Cher has shown a preference for partners with a show business background—and increasingly for younger men. Her current live-in boyfriend, actor Robert Camilletti, is 24. At the same time, Cher, 42, who is now promoting her new line of perfume, Cher Uninhibited, has increasingly had to struggle to preserve her personal and family life from the glare of publicity that now surrounds her. "It's not fair that you can't keep much of your private life, but that is the way it is," she told *Maclean's*. "I think I've managed to scrape one together in little dribs and drabs."



Cher with Camilletti, pressures of unremitting media attention

Violence: For Camilletti, the pressures of unremitting media attention led to a dangerous eruption of violence last July. Driving Cher's gleaming black Ferrari sports car, Camilletti arrived at the star's house in Los Angeles's Benedict Canyon and found several freelance photographers waiting at the gate. Camilletti later claimed that he was trying to avoid the photographers when the Ferrari swerved out of control and struck the car occupied by freelance cameraman Peter Brandt. "He tried to kill me," Brandt told reporters. "He tried to run over me at a high rate of speed." After police arrested Camilletti and charged him with felonious assault, Cher personally went to the jail to post $2,000 bail for him. At the same time, the star's growing preference for younger men has injected another element of controversy into her life. Randy Taraborrelli, the author of an unauthorized 1986 biography, *Cher*, expresses the view that the star deliberately chooses young men as lovers because they are not able to exert control over her.

Taraborrelli told *Maclean's* that since Cher divorced Bono in 1975, most of her men "have been young kids, aspiring actors—people she can control. I think she is afraid of being with anyone too controlling." For her part, Cher has said: "I date younger men because they've been raised by women who are just like me. Younger men are more supportive and a lot less demanding, and they also have more time for their relationships. I want somebody who still wants to go dancing or spend the day at Disneyland, somebody who'll give me more than the little time he has left over after his day at the office."

Despite her well-publicized romances, Cher also insists that she is not promiscuous. "I certainly don't want to flit about, making love with everybody I meet," she has said. "Despite all the publicity, I've actually been involved with very few men. And with each of them I've had a good relationship. We could sit down and talk, know that we were friends." Still, Cher's relationships—with the notable exception of Bono—have tended to be short-lived. According to Cher, a brief affair with actor Warren Beatty when she was 16 persuaded her that she was not interested in sex without emotional attachment. Soon afterward, Cher met Bono, who recognized her star potential. Their marriage and the professional partnership that grew out of it propelled her to stardom, first as part of the best-selling recording duo Sonny and Cher and later in television's *The Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour*.

But Cher now says that her relationship with Bono was emotionally exhausting. She credits Bono—who opened a restaurant in Palm Springs, Calif., in 1984 and was elected mayor of the city last year—with being the driving force behind the success of Sonny and Cher. Bono is now married to his fourth wife, Mary Whittaker. "Sonny's probably a good husband now," said Cher, "but with me he was terrible. He was dictatorial, unfaithful, demanding. For five years before I left him, I wanted to leave. But *The Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour* was so popular that I was afraid." Cher told *Maclean's* that "even today, I think of things I went through with Sonny and I think, 'Was I crazy?' It was part of growing up, making mistakes. It was a really rough relationship." Recalled Bono: "I don't think a married couple should share the same career."

Domineering: Cher rebounded from her failed marriage by becoming involved with record producer David Geffen, a man she later decided was too much like the domineering Bono. Cher, then 27, met Geffen, 30, who was then president of Elektra-Asylum Records, in the fall of 1973 at the Troubador, one of her favorite Los Angeles nightclubs. A former agent for artists including Alberta-born singer Joni Mitchell, Geffen helped Cher launch her solo career in Las Vegas—and arrange her divorce from Bono. At one point, Geffen and Cher planned to marry, but their relationship collapsed after 18 months. At the time, Cher said that Geffen "reminded me too much of Sonny."

After that, Cher began turning toward younger men. In 1975—after another chance encounter at the Troubador nightclub—Cher began seeing Allman, a Tennessee-born keyboard player who was a driving force behind The Allman Brothers' Band—and who was a few months younger than Cher. Four months later, Cher proposed to Allman—despite the fact that he was a known alcoholic and heroin addict. They were married in Las Vegas on June 30, 1975, three days after her divorce from Bono became final. Just nine days later, Cher filed for a divorce, saying, "Gregg and I have made a mistake, and I have always believed it best to admit one's mistakes as quickly as possible."

Addictions: During the next two years, Cher and Allman had a series of reconciliations and further separations. In that period, their son, Elijah Blue, now 12, was born. Allman, according to Cher, would often disappear for several days at a time, and he proved to be unreliable as a husband and father because of his addictions. Cher also condemned his attitudes toward women. "He thought women had two purposes," she said, "to make the bed and to make it in the bed." In 1977, she left Allman for good after he fell asleep with his face on a plate in a restaurant. "I couldn't care less if I never speak to him again in my life," Cher once said of Allman, who has seen his son infrequently since the divorce. Allman's assessment at the time, "I was sorry that I'd done it. I ain't putting her down or anything like that. She was just as sorry."

For about a year following her final break with Allman, Cher remained unattached. "People thought I was sleeping with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir," she recalled, "but I was staying home watching television." Then in 1978, Cher and the daughter she had with Bono, Chastity, attended a political fund-raising event for then-California governor Jerry Brown. Chastity was a fan of Gene Simmons, 28-year-old bass guitarist with the rock band Kiss—who was also there—and Cher approached him. Simmons confessed later that during his relationship with Cher, he freely engaged in relationships with young female fans. Simmons's reputation for promiscuity, said Cher later, was "totally warranted." Added Cher: "He was really sweet—so square and so very Jewish."

In 1980 Cher had a brief relationship with Les Dudek, a guitarist in the Allman Brothers' Band, which some show business observers said appeared to have been inspired partly by business considerations. Together, they formed the band Black Rose in 1980, which recorded one album, of the same name, for Casablanca Records, toured briefly and then disbanded. Cher then entered into a two-year relationship with actor Val Kilmer, then 22, who starred opposite Tom Cruise in the 1986 movie *Top Gun*. Later, Cher said that Kilmer—a man whose eyes were known to wander—was the first man who had left her.

Entranced: It was near the end of her relationship with Kilmer—and on the night of her 40th birthday—that Cher first met Camilletti. While Cher was in the middle of filming *The Witches of Eastwick*, she and Kilmer went to a Manhattan café where Cher noticed Camilletti, then 22, who was supporting himself by working as a bartender and a part-time bagel baker while he studied acting. She was entranced. "Only twice in my life have I been affected that way," she recalled, "and on both occasions, the men were Italians. Rob made my heart do something weird. There's something quite electric and thrilling about it—you only want this one person and you throw everything else out of the window." One of her assistants set them up. Later, Camilletti said that he was astonished when he realized that Cher was interested in him. "What the hell could she find interesting about a guy like me?" he said. "I didn't admit to myself that I was attracted to her. We're from totally different worlds."

Sparks: Tall, dark-haired and affable, Camilletti—whom Cher calls "mookie," slang for "regular guy"—is now living with her, and Cher has mentioned recently that she would like to have another child. "Now that I'm 42," she said, "I'm going to have to hurry up."





With Allman (left), and Kilmer: a preference for younger men has injected another element of controversy into her life

Meanwhile, the couple's relationship has already given Camilletti's professional career a boost. Last year, he appeared opposite Cher in three videos and he has a supporting role in the Tri-Star Pictures comedy *The Perfect Gentleman*, starring Kate Jackson, which is scheduled for release this spring. Taraborrelli described Cher's relationship with Camilletti as "really romantic. There are sparks there. It's really hard to condemn it." For her part, Cher says that Camilletti is "the most well-adjusted man I've ever been with." With their relationship now more than two years old—and apparently still tranquil, despite the attendant pressures of stardom—it may well be that Cher has found her man at last, after all the failures of her checkered past.

NORA UNDERWOOD *with*
BARBARA WICKENS in New York City
and BARBARA WADE ROSE in San Francisco

THE SMELL OF SUCCESS

PROMOTION TAKES ON NEW FORMS

For the 1,600 perfume industry executives who attended last June's Fragrance Foundation awards banquet in the Grand Ballroom of New York City's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, the sweet smell of success was embodied by Elizabeth Taylor, the enduring violet-eyed, 56-year-old movie star. Wearing a tight white dress with tiny purple bows, Taylor accepted an industry award for her Passion line of perfumes, marketed by Parfums International Ltd. of New York and judged to be the "best fragrance introduction" of the preceding year. For some members of the $350-a-plate audience, the star epitomized the increasingly potent role that Hollywood stars are playing in the highly competitive business of selling perfume. Said Annette Green, executive director of the industry-funded foundation: "It had always been very difficult to explain fragrances to the public. Personalities like Liz Taylor, who is considered very brave and very beautiful, can personify a perfume quite well."



GLOBE PHOTOS

Evans: a growing linkage between stars and scents

Glamor: In the past decade, the $5-billion-a-year North American perfume industry has discovered just how well celebrities can sell their product. As a result, a growing list of stars—including Cher, Joan Collins, Catherine Deneuve and Linda Evans—are all promoting their own perfumes, and helping to add glamor to the perfume industry in the process. At the same time, the growing linkage between stars and scents is only one part of an increasing involvement by Hollywood in brand-name advertising, as stars promote products—and manufacturers pay movie producers to display their products on the screen. Although there have been few signs of public unhappiness over the trend, it clearly worries some film industry observers. Mark Litwak, a Los Angeles lawyer who specializes in movie-related cases, for one, says that North Americans "are drowning in advertising and they've gotten numb."

Stars have been lining up to promote their own perfumes since Coty Inc. introduced its Sophia line of fragrances—named for actress Sophia Loren—in 1980. Six years later, Deneuve signed with Parfums Stern Inc. of New York (the firm was bought by New York-based Avon Products in 1987) to promote the perfume named Deneuve, and Evans, star of ABC's *Dynasty*, launched her Forever Krystal line, now owned by Revlon Inc. Taylor's Passion, introduced in 1987, has scored one of the biggest sales successes to date, with $72 million in retail sales for 1988.

Currently, there are about 10 celebrity fragrances on the market. This year, Cher and a clutch of other stars—including actresses Collins and Priscilla Presley, singer Julio Iglesias and dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov—are all introducing their own lines of women's perfumes and colognes. "Perfumes have become the fashion edge of department-store business," said Parfums Stern general manager Robert Brady, adding that $17,000 worth of Cher Unnhibited sold in Macy's New York department store on the day Cher made a promotional appearance there last November.

Newman: profits donated to charity



HENRY/GAMMA_LIAISON

Popcorn: Along with perfume counters, supermarket shelves have become a showcase for the stars. In 1982, actor Paul Newman introduced his Newman's Own food line, beginning with salad dressing and diversifying later into popcorn and spaghetti sauce. All the profits are donated to charities, including a camp for children with cancer and other potentially fatal diseases. For her part, actress-comedian Phyllis Diller introduced her own brands of chili and barbecued baked beans in 1987, while actor Dick Van Patten is now on the shelves with his own dog food.

While stars promote products in real life, other products are insinuating their way onto movie screens. In last year's hit movie *Bull Durham*, the Miller and Budweiser beer brands were prominently depicted 28 times and Jim Beam bourbon three times. More than a dozen other brand-name products were clearly visible in the movie. Altogether, brand names appeared on the screen at the rate of one every two minutes. Movie industry experts estimate that three-quarters of all Hollywood movies now promote five or more products, with corporations paying up to $250,000 for each brief appearance by their product.

Magic: Just as corporate advertisers carefully weigh which movies they want their products to appear in, the packaging and marketing of a star's perfume must reflect its namesake's personality. Parfums Stern's Brady said that extensive market research was done before his company launched the Cher Unnhibited brand of perfume. "Cher embodies what a lot of women would like to be or look like," said Brady. With Cher's scent already ranking among the top-three best-selling perfumes in the stores where it is sold, it is clear that a lot of women also wish to dab a bit of the Cher magic behind their ears.

RIC DOLPHIN

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CHRYSLER CANADA
Changing the landscape



Hoarding in the Squirrel Society

BY CHARLES GORDON

Contrary to the fears of the political prophets, we have not become a society of sheep. We have become a society of squirrels. Helped by modern technology, we expend enormous amounts of energy and time copying things and storing them away. We know why the squirrel stores things awey. It is not entirely clear why we do except that we can.

Ten years ago, no one would have predicted that our homes and offices would be overflowing with paper. Computers were taking over the workplace, memos and reports were being turned into "files" that could be read on computer screens, transmitted from one office to another, one city to the next.

Paper suffered a temporary setback. But it did not disappear. Quite the reverse. The same technology that created the computer created the high-speed printer that could be hooked up to the computer. Suddenly, people were printing out their reports and memos—several copies of them. And, if more than several were needed, improved photocopiers could sort, collate, enlarge or reduce them and pump them out in the hundreds. The latest toy, the facsimile transmitter—or fax, as it is more commonly known—made it possible for people in one place to increase the amount of paper in another place, without waiting for the mailman. The latest threat is that people can do this from their cars.

Why have we allowed the technology that promised a reduction in the pile of paper to expand it instead? Psychology comes into play. When technology makes it easily feasible to send copies of a newspaper clipping to 15 people, then 15 other people feel left out if they don't get it too—not to read necessarily, but to have and to be on the list. The photocopies flood in, and we squirrel them awey—sometimes after making other copies or faxing them to other cities.

Paper is not all that we store. Someone not content to let us stew in all the other modern juices has invented the term "video guilt." Video guilt seems to apply to what we feel when we don't watch the television programs we have carefully videotaped. You can understand it. Something worthwhile is going to be on television—something like Part 3 of Patrick Watson's epic *The Struggle for Democracy* series—and we are due for dinner at Grandma's.

People desperately want to watch all those programs they have recorded and read those articles they have copied

But no fear. This is the moment for which the video cassette recorder was created. This is why we spent $499 on it and studied how to work the controls. In fact, that was the pitch in the electronics department. Eager spouse to reluctant spouse: "You know those good public affairs showe we're always missing. If we buy this, we can tape those showa and watch them when we're in the mood."

Everyone who has made the investment knowe what happens. The machine records cartoons, music videos, the first two hours of two-hour-and-20-minute movies. On rare occasions, it preserves on videotape entire feature-length pitches for beauty products on Channel 6, recorded at the same time as a great Peter Sellers movie on Channel 7.

Video guilt occurs when Part 3 of *Democracy* is on tape and is not watched. The tape is there. Part 3 is on it. Someone has checked. Someone has written "*Democracy* Part 3" on the box containing the videotape. But, as Part 4 turns to Part 7, as winter turns to spring, one thing leads to another and Part 3 is not watched. Video guilt sets in as the eager spouse ponders how he has betrayed the noble ideals he expressed in the electronics department.

It is happening all around the world and all around the house. Children with squirrel tendencies tape-record music programs off the radio, often without listening to them. They buy records in order to record them on tape. It is alleged—although it is difficult to believe—that children of a certain age now study together by faxing notes back and forth. Such things are going on under our very noses in the Squirrel Society, and we have to adapt to them. For a start, remember that the homes most of us live in were designed and built before faxes, VCRs and photocopiers were invented. The space allotted was just enough for a few people, some canned vegetables and a hi-fi system. So where is all that other stuff going to go?

Finding space is part of the problem. Finding time is another. People consumed with video guilt and its teenaged equivalent, audio guilt, need more time than has been allotted to them by the inventors of time and clocks. They desperately want to catch up. They want to watch all those programs they have recorded. They want to read all those articles they have photocopied. But there is no time to do it. The time they do have is spent setting the VCR and running the photocopier, filing the photocopies and indexing the videotapes. Unless a person is fortunate enough to suffer a mild illness that allows him to stay home for a month watching videotapes, catching up will be impossible.

The Squirrel Society starts from the premise that people don't want to miss anything. If they can't see it, they want to tape it. If they can't read it, they want to copy it. What is important is not to watch or to read, but to have. What makes the premise of the Squirrel Society work is that technology makes it possible not to miss anything—or, at least, to *seem* not to miss anything.

In fact, we may be missing more. We skip reading articles in newspapers and magazines because we know we can copy them and read them later. We don't go out to the movies because we know we can get the movies on tape. We skip television programs because we know we can tape them. Perhaps the only thing worse than that is the reverse—that we wind up watching twice as much television, viewing on one channel while we tape on the other, then watching the tape.

In an ideal society, technology sets us free, allows us to pursue other interests while machines store what needs to be stored. But this is not the ideal society, this is the Squirrel Society, where life is recorded rather than experienced, stored rather than shared. An irony is that technology has given us, in the form of the lightweight videotape camera, the perfect instrument for recording real life just at the time when there is less and less real life to record.

Charles Gordon is a columnist with The Ottawa Citizen



FOR THE RECORD

Bold new sounds

Transatlantic musicians lay down the beat

Ever since rock 'n' roll was born on American soil, British musicians have been masters at robbing the cradle. Pop music in the 1960s underwent a massive commercial boom only after British artists took the squalling sounds of American blues and early rock and groomed them for mass appeal. And when rock lost its edge during the 1970s, British bands reclaimed the music, stripping it back to its basics and injecting the vitality of punk and new wave into the mainstream. Emerging from Britain's new-wave scene, Elvis Costello has become one of pop's most talented songwriters, drawing comparisons for his prolific output to such celebrated American composers as Cole Porter and George Gershwin. And Fine Young Cannibals, a popular 1980s British band, has won acclaim by grafting the vocal style of American soul onto the latest dance rhythms. The new albums of both Costello and the Cannibals demonstrate that, even at a time when technology has transformed rock into a kind of borderless global pop, British musicians still play a leading role by borrowing American traditions and making them their own.

Costello's *Spike*, his 12th album and his first for Warner Bros., is transatlantic in its production as well as its content. Recorded in London, Dublin, New Orleans and Hollywood, it represents the artist's most ambitious—and accomplished—work to date. Using the talents of such diverse musicians as Paul McCartney and T-Bone Burnette, Costello's palette covers the musical spectrum, from jazz and folk to rockabilly and pop. And with it he paints a cynical world full of characters who are either victims or practitioners of deception and betrayal.



WOLFSON/G—R/M PHOTO

Costello: cultural roots

While Costello in the past has proven himself to be both inventive and eclectic, *Spike* takes his creativity to even greater heights. And in an apparent tribute, Costello has named the album after one of his heroes, British comedian Spike Milligan, and depicted himself on the cover as a harlequin with half his face in black paint.

Much of *Spike* is richly flavored by American music, from moody strains of the Old South to gritty urban styles of the 1980s. The New Orleans sounds of Allen Toussaint's elegant piano and the Dirty Dozen Brass Band's stately horns fill *Deep Dark Truthful Mirror*, a ballad of spurned love. The Dirty Dozen then shift gears to provide cartoon-like accompaniment—including much squawking and screeching—on the funky *Chewing Gum*, an odd tale about a mail-order bride and her manipulative, "kinky beast" husband.

Two songs arise out of Costello's recent collaboration with McCartney, who invited him to co-write material for his own next album, due later this year. *Veronica*, a portrait of an eccentric old woman, is a giddy romp blessed with a sunny melody that is classic McCartney. But Costello's mark is clear on such lines as "She closed her eyes upon the world and/picked upon the bones of last week's news." And *Pads, Paws and Claws*, a scorching rockabilly number, deals with a drunk whose spouse is "a feline tormentor, not any vaudeville wife."



NOSOTH/G—R/M PHOTO

Fine Young Cannibals Andy Cox (left), Gift, David Steele. soulful rhythms

But *Spike*'s strongest tracks spring from Costello's own cultural roots. Although known for his Presley-derived first name and Buddy Holly glasses, Costello was born Declan MacManus to Irish parents (he recently moved back to Dublin from London with his Irish wife, Cait O'Riordan). And two songs that draw on Celtic music each tell a deeply moving tale. Costello has said that *Any King's Shilling*, a story about a man caught in the Irish independence conflict, set to bittersweet harp music, is about the experiences of his grandfather. But the trenchant *Tramp the Dirt Down*, depicting an England racked by the Northern Ireland civil war and unemployment, clearly stems from Costello's own observations. Featuring traditional Celtic instruments, it amounts to a bitter farewell to the country. In it, he blames the government of Margaret Thatcher for those social ills—"England was the whore of the world/Margaret was her madam."

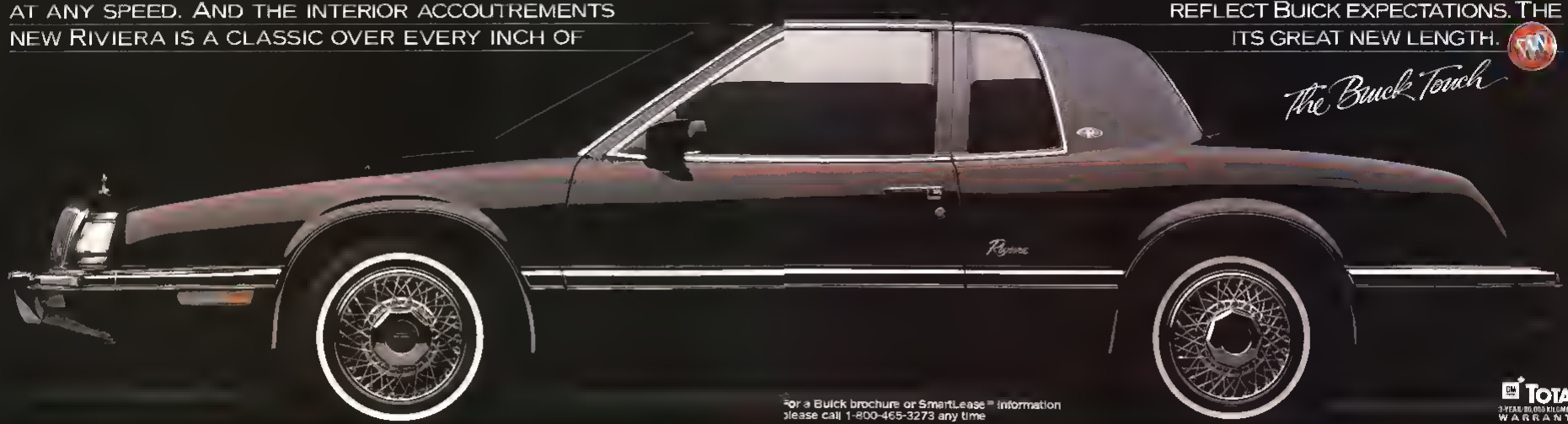
While Costello's new album is a mother lode of musical and lyrical nuggets, the latest from the Fine Young Cannibals has riches of another kind—highly polished dance music. With Roland Gift's anguished vocals, which draw on the styles of U.S. soul singers Al Green and Otis Redding, the Cannibals create an intriguing mix of sounds from the past and present. *Tell Me What* is a stylized version of the girl-group music of Motown, complete with do-wop vocals. But *Good Thing* and especially the wildly percussive *I'm Not Satisfied* take the sound into the 1980s by using the heavily accentuated rhythm tracks of so-called house music, the industrial-strength U.S. dance style that has recently become the rage in England.

The Raw & the Cooked also features guitar playing steeped in classic 1960s rock on such songs as the gutsy *Don't Look Back*. Still, the highlight of the Cannibals' sound, as on their 1986 self-titled debut, remains Gift's plaintive voice. Conveying a kind of heightened sexual anxiety on the new album's numerous love songs, Gift is already gaining a reputation as a sex symbol for his appearances in such movies as *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid* and the soon-to-be-released *Scandal*. Like Costello, the Fine Young Cannibals are on the forward edge of pop. And as both new albums prove, their talent lies in putting a transatlantic stamp on what was once a distinctly American form.

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HEALTH

A harvest of toxin

Corn's wholesome image may be badly shaken

Fresh, popped, puffed, canned frozen or flaked—corn in a dizzying variety of forms is a staple of the Canadian diet. It is also a key ingredient in the food consumed by livestock, which provides the nation's tables with milk, meat and eggs. Its healthful associations, moreover, make corn almost as much of a staple for advertisers, who energetically promote its presence in margarine and breakfast cereals. But last week, the popular grain's wholesome image was badly shaken by an alarming headline in the usually staid New York City-based *Wall Street Journal*. "Spreading poison," read the boldface italics over the assertion "Fungus in corn crop a potent carcinogen invades food supplies." Readers who waded through the exhaustively researched 6,500-word story learned that last summer's drought may have left up to 30 per cent of the United States' corn crop—which provides more than one-third of the world's supplies—contaminated with a natural toxin 100 times more deadly than industrial polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

In fact, the story in part at least, was already known to most American growers and processors of food, as well as to the Canadian agencies charged with safeguarding the country's food supply. They have known since last autumn that summer-long high temperatures and low rainfall produced ideal growing conditions for *Aspergillus flavus*, a fungus that attacks ears and kernels of heat-weakened corn.

Regulators and food processors alike have been braced for a surge in reports of corn contaminated by aflatoxin, a carcinogen produced by the *Aspergillus* fungus and linked to cancer of the liver as well as isolated acute-poisoning deaths. Indeed, by mid-November, reported the *Journal*, as many as half the samples of corn tested by one U.S. government laboratory were tainted with aflatoxin. By the same month, some grain depots in the breadbasket state of Nebraska were turning away one truckload of corn in five when samples inspected under ultraviolet light revealed the telltale phosphorescent green glow of aflatoxin contamination. But in neither the United States nor Canada have government agencies issued any warning to consumers.

For their part, spokesmen for Agriculture Canada and the health protection branch of Health and Welfare Canada said last week that consumers in this country have little to fear from the lethal fungus. For one thing, Canada's cooler climate discourages *Aspergillus* in native corn crops. Said Raymond Blewett, director of Agriculture Canada's feed and fertilizer division, "Our monitoring has never found aflatoxin to be a particular problem."

There was less to reassure Canadians, however, about the safety of more than 340,000 tons of American corn—and no fewer than 32 varieties of processed corn ranging from cornmeal to tacos—imported into Canada each year. That corn is supposed to meet standards set by the United States Food and Drug Administration, Blewett told *Maclean's*. But, as *Journal* reporter Scott Kilman noted, "Those who regulate grain elevators lack money and manpower." Added Kilman, "They also seem to lack will." Most shipments of tainted corn, Kilman charged, eventually find customers. Indeed, in one instance, samples of corn were sent by bus for testing in a federal laboratory—and eventually were found to be contaminated—while the rest of the corn shipment carried on unimpeded to processors. And although officials said that Canadian inspections of imported corn and corn products had not uncovered any aflatoxin contamination by late last week, they conceded that only a small fraction of imported corn shipments are tested.



AFRONET/SYGMA

Iowa corn: 32 varieties of processed corn, from meal to tacos, are imported into Canada

Indeed, for Canadian consumers, the risks are probably slight. While acknowledging that border inspections amount to little more than spot checks, Blewett said that inspectors for Agriculture Canada were instructed in October to step up their vigilance against aflatoxin contamination of feed corn entering this country. Meanwhile, most large U.S. food processors conduct private tests on corn destined to carry their brand name.

The Quaker Oats Co., which owns the world's largest cereal mill at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, tests six samples from each truckload of corn—and last fall was turning away as many as one in five because of aflatoxin contamination. The danger is greater for Third World consumers who are major buyers of U.S. corn, and who often lack sophisticated testing facilities or strict food-quality regulations. Indeed, medical journals record the deaths of about 100 people in India in 1974, and 12 Kenyans in the early 1980s, as a result of earlier outbreaks of *Aspergillus*. With more stringent controls in place, and untainted domestic supplies, a similar fate is unlikely to befall corn-loving Canadians.

CHRIS WOOD

A new cancer clue

A protein may inhibit the disease's growth

Catching cancer before it can spread through the human body almost always means the difference between life and death. Medical experts say that nearly all cancer patients whose disease has begun to spread at the time of detection have little chance of survival. But now, a team of researchers at the University of Western Ontario in London may have achieved a significant advance in science's quest to defeat cancer. In an article published in the Feb. 17 issue of the respected U.S. journal *Science*, the team led by biochemist David Denhardt described research that points to a protein that may play a key role in preventing cancer. "This discovery is very exciting," said Richard Schultz, a biochemist who works in the same field at Chicago's Loyola University. "It may eventually lead to some drug which inhibits the spread of cancer."



JOHN GIORANNO/ PICTURE GROUP

Denhardt: understanding means hope

The protein that attracted the attention of Denhardt's team is known as tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase (TIMP). British and American researchers first identified it in the late 1970s as a substance that they said was important in maintaining the connective tissue joining cells together. But Denhardt and his team now say that TIMP may also prevent cancer from occurring and rapidly spreading through the body. Using genetic engineering techniques to clone mouse genes, the team then supressed the gene that produced TIMP. They discovered that when cells were unable to make TIMP, they became cancerous. That discovery emphasizes the role of genes in cancer, and the fact that some people are genetically more susceptible to some kinds of cancer than other people. Said Denhardt, a Sacramento, Calif.-born scientist who headed Western's cancer research laboratory from 1980 to 1988: "We speculate that some human tumors will be found to result from the loss of the gene [responsible for producing TIMP]."

The findings emerged after Denhardt's 12-member team began examining the cellular substances known as metalloproteinases—a group of enzymes found in animal and human cells. Enzymes act as catalysts of cellular change. The metalloproteinase enzymes which some cancerous cells produce in large quantities, can break down the tissues that bind cells together. As a result, cancer cells are able to enter the bloodstream and invade other parts of the body. Said Denhardt: "Cancer is simply a disease of aberrant, or runaway, cell growth. So we felt that a better understanding of cell growth was essential to understanding how that regulatory process may break down in cancer."

Other researchers, including Schultz, have increased the amount of TIMP in cancerous mice which significantly retarded the spread of the disease. If the findings about TIMP are correct, the way might be open to using a laboratory-produced version of the protein. Still, Denhardt said that the testing of TIMP in human beings may be some years away because further clinical trials are needed. As well, Denhardt said that even if the protein were to prove effective in checking a cancer's growth, the disease would still have to be detected before it had spread to other parts of the body.

The findings of Denhardt's team also seemed likely to help scientists studying other diseases that involve enzyme deficiencies. In rheumatoid arthritis, for one, a lack of TIMP is suspected to lead to an early onset of the disease in those genetically disposed to it. Researchers at Synergen Inc., a biotechnology firm in Boulder, Colo., have already discovered that arthritic mice show a 50-per-cent improvement rate after being injected with TIMP. Meanwhile, Denhardt said that his team's findings provide new clues to the intricate workings of the human cell. He added, "We can't really understand cancer until we know how the normal cell functions, just like you can't fix your car if you don't know how it works." For Canada's estimated 96,300 cancer sufferers diagnosed each year, more understanding can only mean more hope.

RIC DOLPHIN

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BRAD MARTEL

501 Pennsylvania Ave.: saying to Americans, 'Come in, walk through'

ARCHITECTURE

A fiery reception

Canada builds a new capital embassy

It is the first and only foreign facade to be permitted on the most powerful streetscape in America. For that reason alone, the new Canadian Embassy in Washington was expected to create controversy. But even in a city preoccupied with passionate debate, Canada's new chancery at 501 Pennsylvania Ave. was drawing praise and raising eyebrows, objections and arguments. In fact, the embassy has been the target of verbal attacks ever since 1978, when Pierre Trudeau's Liberal government paid $5 million for the land where it sits—halfway between Capitol Hill and the White House on a boulevard occupied by such embodiments of American nationhood as the National Gallery of Art and the FBI. Eleven years ago, many Americans criticized the Democratic administration of Jimmy Carter for allowing a foreign power to thrust itself so deeply into the symbolic essence of the capital. Now, the building itself has come under fire from architectural critics, politicians and members of the general public. Said Allen Lenchek, a lawyer who works in the adjacent federal law courts building: "It is a jumble of conflict. The architect has tried to satisfy everybody and has satisfied nobody."

There is no doubt that British Columbia architect Arthur Erickson has combined diverse elements and a wide variety of styles in his design for the $90-million, six-storey embassy. The monumental 186,000-square-foot structure's halting progress from blueprint to completion was also dogged by delays, diplomatic embarrassments and cost overruns—in part, due to stepped-up security—which added $20 million to its cost. Still, when the building opens for business March 15, it will permit Canada's 300-member diplomatic corps in Washington—now scattered around four separate buildings in the city—to work out of the same offices for the first time ever. Canada's new ambassador in Washington, Derek Burney, meanwhile, defended the embassy as "a strong and confident building for a strong and confident Canada." Added Burney—whose new office possesses a spectacular floor-to-ceiling view of the Capitol: "It conveys the message that I want to convey. Canada counts."



MARY ANN DONOHUE

Erickson: diverse messages

The medium for that message is a dramatic open box design constructed of wintry white Ontario limestone, leavened with architectural references to several more familiar Washington landmarks. A large classical rotunda with 12 concrete pillars—one for each province and territory—steals an element from the neoclassical domed Capitol itself. Nearby, a colonnade of fluted cast-aluminum columns skirts the open side of a courtyard, supporting a glass skylight and echoing the Federal Trade Commission across the street. A strikingly sharp triangular pier that supports a walkway also reflects the angular modernist East Wing of the neighboring National Gallery. Said Erickson: "It shows that we can stand up in Washington with the best." He added, "I hope that it will elicit pride about our presence in the United States."

The building has clearly delighted some architectural reviewers. One of its admirers is influential National Gallery director J. Carter Brown, who declared, "It is saying to the American people, 'Come in, walk through.'" And B.C. architect Barry Downs noted that gardens on the building's several courtyard terraces will eventually soften its stark outlines. He added, "It is a beautiful gift to Washington."

But its disparate architectural styles have also provoked pointed criticism. Paul Goldberger, an architectural critic for *The New York Times*, for one, criticized the embassy's "showy glass" and dismissed its design as "an awkward pastiche." Added Toronto architect Bruce Kuwabara: "It is not strictly modern nor strictly neoclassical. It becomes an ambiguous chameleon." And even Erickson's longtime Vancouver associate, architect Bing Thom, declared: "Usually, his buildings are a gem in a pile of costume jewelry. To my eye, this building is fussy. I think Arthur was trying too hard."

Certainly, Erickson had to combat persistent criticism and frustrating delays in order to see his design realized. Indeed, when Trudeau overlooked four finalists in an invitational competition and chose Erickson, a personal friend, to oversee the project in 1982, his decision sparked opposition charges of favoritism and unsuccessful demands for a public inquiry. Two years later, the new Conservative government delayed the start of work on the building by a year in order to save money. An additional setback came when Washington authorities spent six months weighing Erickson's unconventional design before approving construction. As a result of those delays, by the time it opens, the embassy will be 13 months behind schedule.

The constantly shifting timetable for the building's completion forced several revisions of the celebrations planned for its opening. One proposal for a $20-million gala festival of Canadian performing artists and cultural exhibits has been cancelled—in part also for lack of commercial sponsors. And by last week, with less than a month remaining before the first offices are occupied in the new embassy, Canadian diplomats were still scrambling to finalize plans for its official inauguration.

Still, both the building and its location close to the heart of the American power structure—and several blocks from the other international missions on Washington's Embassy Row—clearly signal a new Canadian prominence in the capital, one that observers are struggling to define. Said Michael Stanton, architecture critic for the weekly Washington *City Paper*: "Perhaps Canada is pressing to become the 51st state ahead of [the District of Columbia] and Puerto Rico."

Even the diplomats who will soon occupy the building admit to some uncertainty about how best to use its lavish facilities. "We could do staff weddings and charity events once or twice a year," said embassy spokesman Jock Osler. But he added, "we don't want to be a hire-a-hall for funerals and bar mitzvahs." As for other Canadians, many of whom perennially suffer from the perception that they are ignored by their huge southern neighbor, the attention generated by the country's bold new address on Pennsylvania Avenue may well offset any criticism.

CHRIS WOOD *with* ***HILARY MACKENZIE*** *in Washington and* ***MARY NEMETH*** *in Toronto*

DEFENCE

Women in combat

New rules open up the Armed Forces to females

The promotion was a milestone in the advancement of women in Canada's Armed Forces. Defence department officials promoted Capt. Laraine Orthlieb of Calgary to the level of commodore on Feb. 17, making her the first woman to achieve the highest rank in Canada's naval reserve. She joins Sheila Hellstrom and Wendy Clay of the regular air force, who hold the equivalent rank of brigadier-general. During the three-year appointment, which will likely be her last before she retires, Orthlieb will advise on all operations of the naval reserve, travel widely and keep in close contact with the 24 reserve divisions across the country. Declared Orthlieb, 50, whose promotion takes effect in August: "It is probably the most interesting time that anyone could have this job, with the expansion of all three forces and the real role we have been given of assisting in the coastal defence of this country. That's important—and that's a real challenge." Her appointment coincided with a key ruling by the Canadian Human Rights Commission that could significantly affect the role of women in the Canadian military.

The three-member, Ottawa-based tribunal ruled that complete integration of women into the Forces must occur over the next 10 years—and that women can no longer be prevented from serving in combat. If the defence department has not appealed by March 2, the ruling will have the force of law. Currently, women—who make up about nine per cent of the 85,000-member Armed Forces—serve only in noncombat roles. The tribunal ruled that there was no justification for restricting women in the Forces.

Still, despite the existing ban on women in combat roles, some female soldiers have already received training that could put them in frontline positions in the event of war. In November, five women graduated from the Royal Canadian Artillery Battle School at Canadian Forces Base Shilo, near Brandon, Man., as part of a trial to determine the suitability of women for combat roles. Said Maj. Al Gallop, the school's chief instructor: "They are soldiers and they are artillerymen, period. And what sex they are does not matter."



DOUGLAS WILLIAMS/NC AIR

Orthlieb: highest rank in the naval reserve

For her part, Orthlieb said that being female had often affected her career with the naval reserve. When the Saint John, N.B.-born Orthlieb first thought of joining the navy, she recalled: "I had a picture of going to sea. I didn't realize women didn't go." She joined the naval reserve as a nurse in 1959 in Saint John and moved to Edmonton the following year. In 1963 she married Robert Orthlieb, who is now a Calgary based oil company executive. At the time, said Laraine Orthlieb, senior naval reserve officers disapproved of female officers marrying because they felt that women's domestic lives interfered with training programs.

In 1965, Orthlieb resigned from the reserve to raise her three children, who are now aged 19 to 25. In 1974, she became one of the first women to go to sea—before defence department officials permitted women in the regular Forces to serve on Canadian ships. Now, said Orthlieb, "it's a wonderful time to be in the Armed Forces as a woman because of all the dramatic changes." For Orthlieb and other women in the Canadian military, the Human Rights Commission's ruling could open the way to an even more exciting—and hazardous—future.

NORA UNDERWOOD



GAMMA/ PONO PRESSE

ART

A Pop Art puzzle

Will Warholmania yield to the next fad?

Andy Warhol's glitzy reign as the silver-wigged King of Pop Art has endured light-years beyond the 15 minutes of fame that he allotted everyone else in his much-quoted pronouncement. Even those who know little about art recognize the American artist, who died in 1987, as the Maestro of the Campbell's Soup Can, the man who turned banal consumer objects into contemporary icons. And even his most violent critics admit that he had the sharpest instincts for what was timely of any artist of his generation. The question remains, however, whether his tremendous output is the stuff of enduring art, or whether Warholmania will disappear with the next twist of fashion. The current exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, where 273 of his works are on display until May, provides at least a partial answer.

The MOMA retrospective appears at a time when the Warhol market increasingly resembles dealings on the stock exchange. Veteran New York City art dealer Ivan Karp describes it as "utterly bizarre and hysterical. You have to phone around to find out what a particular work is worth at a particular hour. People who know nothing about his art are paying incredible prices,' he says. "There needs to be a sorting out." In fact, Warhol's death at the age of 58—he suffered a fatal heart attack after routine gallbladder surgery—has had the effect of raising the price of everything connected with the artist. The auction of the contents of his Manhattan townhouse attracted tens of thousands of people. And in 10 days of fierce bidding, the sale netted more than $30 million as rich souvenir-hunters vied for everything from neoclassical busts to cookie jars, from Jasper Johns drawings to Bakelite trinkets.

Warhol: a clear-eyed and chillingly deadpan chronicler of consumer society

Warhol's funeral was an equally spectacular affair. The ceremony, attended by the rich and beautiful and famous—including Liza Minelli and Paloma Picasso—marked an interesting process of sanctification that began at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City with art critic John Richardson eulogizing the artist's "spiritual' life and his good works for the poor. Now, sanctification of another sort has come with the MOMA retrospective, an honor that was denied Warhol during his lifetime.

To some extent, the show—which travels to the Art Institute of Chicago in May, and later to London, Cologne, Milan and Paris—evaluates Warhol's achievement by a process of exclusion. The emphasis of the exhibition falls heavily on the years before 1968, when Warhol narrowly survived being shot by an unhinged hanger-on named Valerie Solanis, founder of the Society for Cutting Up Men (SCUM). The implicit message of the retrospective is clear: in later years, Warhol became a canny commercial hack, less an interesting creative artist than the chief executive officer of his own company, A. Warhol Enterprises, Inc. There is even some muted criticism in the catalogue, a medium that is normally as compromised as album-liner notes. Marxist critic Benjamin Buchloh takes Warhol to task for what he calls "complacent opportunism" while New York City art historian Robert Rosenblum describes the artist as "secular and venal."

Although Warhol's subject matter is indelibly associated with celebrity portraits and mass-produced consumer products, the themes that emerge from the MOMA show are somewhat different. One is the artist's endless preoccupation with his own face. The other is a cool but obsessive fascination with the subject of mortality.

Warhol was never satisfied with his facial features. The catalogue's official chronology extensively states that he had a nose job in 1957, and in 1963 replaced the grey hairpiece he had worn since the early 1950s with his famous silver-sprayed wig. In spite of—or perhaps because of—those improvements, the elements of his face never seemed quite to fit together, so that he resembled one of those composite portraits drawn by police artists. It did not matter. The point was that Warhol, with his expression of controlled vapidity, was as instantly recognizable as Picasso, with his intense, staring eyes, or Dali, with his absurd, pomaded moustaches. Warhol photographed himself ruthlessly in photo booths or with a Polaroid. And, by producing large and lavish images of himself in the studio, he flattered himself in the same way he later flattered the rich by executing their portraits for $35,000 a sitting. Typical is a 1967 self-portrait, a silk-screened, painted image that shows Warhol, finger to mouth, in a pose associated with contemplation. Just before his death, he completed a series in which his shrewd face is overlaid with patterning that acts as a kind of camouflage—a perfect metaphor for an artist who sought his identity in the distorting mirror of the press but who remained coyly private.

Apart from once flippantly expressing the desire to be reincarnated as a ring on Elizabeth Taylor's finger, Warhol was reticent to actually talk about death. In fact, the chapter on death in his book *The Philosophy of Andy Warhol* (1975) reads in its entirety: "I don't believe in it, because you're not around to know that it's happened. I can't say anything about it because I'm not prepared for it." Perhaps not, but the body of work that has since become known as the Death and Disaster series, carried out in the early 1960s, is without doubt the most powerful group of paintings in the exhibition.

The series had its genesis in several oddly affecting paintings that Warhol did of the front pages of tabloid newspapers. They were among the last hand-painted works Warhol was to do before switching to his patented method of silk-screening photographically produced images on canvases and then simply adding color with a brush. It was a system that allowed Warhol to produce work in alarming quantities. With that new technique, he explored the more morbid and violent aspects of the age, with multiple images of the electric chair, race riots, nuclear tests and press photographs of suicides and car accidents. Even most of the celebrity portraits of that period seem to be touched with death. His famous depictions of Marilyn Monroe were started the day she committed suicide, and his interest in Jacqueline Kennedy developed only after she had become a widow. He began a series on Taylor when she was seriously ill and, when she recovered, Warhol said that he felt he had to add lots of bright colors.



LAUNOIS/BLACK STAR

Marilyn: 'People who know nothing about his art are paying incredible prices'

One of the merits of the MOMA show is that it clearly traces Warhol's route to the world of fine art. The son of a poor Pennsylvania family of Czechoslovak immigrants, he went to design school in Pittsburgh. In the 1950s, he became a commercial artist and window dresser in New York City. The catalogue reprints some of his highly successful I. Miller shoe ad campaigns, and the show contains several paintings he exhibited in the window of the Bonwit Teller department store. By the late 1950s, Warhol was winning awards for art direction, earning $65,000 a year and collecting the work of American vanguard artists, including Jasper Johns. In 1961, dealer Karp, after selling Warhol a Johns drawing, showed him a comic strip painting by the then-little-known U.S. Pop artist Roy Lichtenstein. Warhol told Karp that he was doing work "in the same spirit" and invited him home to view his own latest work. "He had two kinds of paintings," Karp told *Maclean's*. "One kind had the drips and splatters of Abstract Expressionism that showed you were poetic. The others were quite stark, and much more appropriate to his subject matter." Warhol, who was always seeking the advice of others, was quick to drop the drip and slather of Abstract Expressionism.

By the 1960s, Warhol was already becoming famous for being famous. In his silver-painted loft known as the Factory, the artist's strangely passive personality in private seemed to have had a magnetic attraction for the more self-destructive elements of New York City's demimonde. One of Warhol's followers—an upper-class French woman named Isabelle Dufresne who adopted the name Ultra Violet—has just published her memoirs under the title *Famous for 15 Minutes* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich). A hedonist in her day, Dufresne is now a stern moralist, writing that Warhol was "in a way, the spiritual father of AIDS, casual gay sex and equally casual needle-sharing having been daily fare at his Factory." Her portrait of the elusive, almost robotic artist is nowhere more revealing than when she reports that Warhol never attended the funeral of his mother, with whom he had lived for more than 40 years. "I switch to another channel on my mind, like on TV," Warhol told Dufresne. "I say she's gone to Bloomingdale's."

Dufresne's book argues that Warhol was profoundly affected by the murder attempt in 1968. Before then, she speculates, Warhol had always flirted with the notion of death, but, after a close brush with mortality, decided to play it safe. Certainly his work became less interesting as he concentrated on product endorsements, commercial portraits or two-man exhibitions with Leroy Neiman, Hugh Hefner's court painter. In stark contrast to the underground movies he made in the 1960s—they were alternately raw or radically boring—in the 1970s, he focused on his society fan magazine, *Interview*. Typically, Warhol tried to preempt criticism by saying it first himself. "I started as a commercial artist," he wrote in *Philosophy*, "and I want to finish as a business artist." It is as good an epitaph as any, although it omits to say that, for a period of seven or eight years, Warhol produced exceptional work. Or, as the American sculptor Carl Andre put it in the catalogue, "Andy Warhol was the perfect glass and mirror of his age and the artist we deserved." Clear-eyed and chillingly deadpan, Warhol proved to be an ideal chronicler of consumer society.

GEOFFREY JAMES *in New York City*



Mazerolle (left), Ishmael: a play within a play and a forum for public debate

THEATRE

Eloquent battle

A drama pits an idealist against a cynic

A MAP OF THE WORLD
By David Hare
Directed by Damir Andrei

At the 1982 première of *A Map of the World* by British playwright David Hare, some people in the audience in Adelaide, Australia, were so stirred up by the play's ideas that conflicting cries of "Nonsense!" and "Right on!" resounded through the theatre. Dramatic experience of that sort has been in short supply in Canada, where audiences tend to be more sedate, and few dramatists tackle current public issues in a form that thoroughly airs contrasting points of view. But now, a new Toronto version of *A Map of the World* is offering theatregoers a chance to savor the drama's eloquent battle between youthful idealism and world-weary cynicism for themselves. Despite some spotty acting and directing, the Canadian Stage Company-Theatre Fountainhead coproduction, which runs at Toronto Free Theatre until March 22, is an exhilarating reminder that theatre can be one of the most useful forums for public discussion that a society can experience.

Hare (*Plenty*, *Wetherby*) has set his drama in the lounge of a once-grand Bombay hotel, which is the location of a 1978 UNESCO conference on Third World poverty. The first character the audience meets is Stephen Andrews (Ross Manson), an English journalist in his late 20s who is covering the conference for a small, left-wing magazine. Stephen is deeply disturbed by the poverty that he sees in the streets of Bombay. Passionate and idealistic, he persists in a hope that the United Nations and countries of the West can do something to alleviate the suffering of the poorer parts of the world.

His fervor soon puts him in opposition to Victor Mehta (Marvin Ishmael), a famous author who writes comic novels lampooning Third World inefficiency. Victor has been asked to address the conference. But in order to soothe the ruffled feelings of certain delegates who feel insulted by his work, the organizers want him to read a brief introductory statement pointing out that what he writes is fiction—not literal truth. The proud Victor refuses. Stephen argues that he should swallow his artistic integrity in order to make the conference a success. The issue is still unresolved when a beautiful young American musician, Peggy Whitton (Arlene Mazerolle), suggests a solution: the two men should debate their positions and the winner will sleep with her (while Mehta, if he loses, will read the prepared statement).

Hare frames that unusual situation within a second story about the actors who are portraying Stephen, Victor and the others at the conference. When cameras and a film crew led by a comically oafish director called Angelis (William Colgate) suddenly invade the stage, *A Map of the World* takes on a whole new dimension. It soon becomes clear that the play the audience originally thought it was watching was actually a rehearsal for a film based on an autobiographical novel by the real-life Victor Mehta (also played by Ishmael). Hare has intentionally made the framing story in which the actors bicker with each other—and Victor and his wife complain about the quality of the film adaptation—less absorbing and important than the content of the "film." That tactic vividly makes the point that art can be a source of depth and meaning.

The core of the play is the witty, constantly surprising struggle between Victor and Stephen. At first, Victor simply stereotypes the younger man as a typical left-wing idealist who worships Mao and Castro and cannot see that Marxism has simply become a fashionable excuse for tyranny. But Stephen refuses to be pigeonholed, battling back with attacks of his own against Victor's stance of wise superiority. In the course of defending those who at least try to do some good in the world, Stephen scathingly denounces Victor's mockery of inefficiency at the United Nations. "Oh yes," Stephen says, "the gleam that comes into your eye when you have some dismal statistic. 'Sixty-five per cent of people who set out to cross roads get run over,' you say with a satisfied beam, as if their presumption had been justly rewarded. Whereas you, of course . . . The position of the habitual non-road-crosser has been wholly vindicated!"

Ross Manson makes a superb Stephen, his lanky body betraying with every twist how the callow, awkward yet extremely likable young man believes in his very bones what he is saying. As Victor, Ishmael too is generally excellent, at one moment hiding behind a facade of genteel arrogance, the next spitting out his arguments with the hunched defiance of a street fighter. But he fails to bring the right note of poignancy and defeat to his final, crucial speech where Victor tacitly admits the waste of his life. As well, the comedy of the play is pushed too often into farce, and there are bouts of unclear speaking. But *A Map of the World* is substantial enough to survive those faults. Wordy, thoughtful, brilliant, it is a rare multifaceted look at some complex global problems.

JOHN BEMROSE



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BOOKS

Growing up in gangland

E. L. Doctorow's latest bristles with danger

BILLY BATHGATE
By E. L. Doctorow
(Random House 323 pages, $27.50)

E. L. Doctorow, the celebrated chronicler of America (*Ragtime, The Book of Daniel*), opens his new novel, *Billy Bathgate*, with a murder scene as chilling as any in recent fiction. Dutch Schultz, the Depression-era gangster who is one of the book's main characters, has decided to eliminate a disloyal gang member called Bo Weinberg. Schultz takes Weinberg on a night boat ride out of New York City harbor into the open Atlantic, where he orders him at gunpoint to stand in a basin of wet cement. Then, while the cement is hardening, he takes Weinberg's girlfriend, Drew Preston, into a nearby cabin—apparently to rape her. The two-pronged torture is highly effective. Weinberg, who can face his own death at the bottom of the Atlantic with some equanimity, is completely unmanned by the attack on Drew. By the end of the chapter, he can only moan for his mother and beg Schultz's henchmen to shoot him—an act of mercy that they steadfastly refuse to perform.

Doctorow describes that event—and several others like it—with a kind of surgical exactness, an exquisite attention to detail that reveals how much his imagination is galvanized by the nearness of violent death. Like another American writer before him, Ernest Hemingway, Doctorow frequently depends on the charge inherent in depictions of physical danger to keep his images bright and his long, lyrical sentences taut and clean. The book's narrator, Billy Bathgate, describes Bo Weinberg's death with a vividness that permeates the whole novel: Billy misses nothing, right to the last moment when all that can be seen of Bo above the surface of the Atlantic is "the shot white cuffs and the pale hands reaching for heaven."

Yet *Billy Bathgate* is a celebration of life as well, particularly the life of youth, with its boundless resilience and illusions of immortality. Now in his 60s, Billy re-creates his past as a fatherless 15-year-old in the Bronx of the 1930s. While his mother works in a local laundry, Billy—like his peers—goes to school only sporadically, steals a little and worships the mystique of Schultz, whose territory includes Billy's neighborhood. Then, one day, Schultz drops by to visit a warehouse he owns and sees Billy juggling two balls, a navel orange, an egg and a black stone. As wily as he is dexterous, Billy pretends to be so impressed at seeing the famous gangster that he drops everything. Pleased and impressed himself, Schultz compliments Billy and gives him a crisp $10 bill. From that moment on, Billy becomes obsessed with joining Schultz's gang. He hangs around their hideout until they adopt him as a sort of errand boy. Eventually, he wins their full confidence, finding in the mobsters a substitute for the father who deserted him and his mother years ago.

Billy's new family is a strange one, a motley collection of professionals as dedicated to their craft as any doctor or lawyer. They are perhaps a bit too colorful to be wholly convincing, drawn as much from Hollywood as from their real life models. But it is hard not to like a character such as Abbadabba Berman, Schultz's master accountant and numbers-racket man, who slips Billy money and teaches him how to shoot a gun. Even Billy's number 1 foster-father, Schultz himself, has a kind of crude geniality. But he is also given to violent, unpredictable rages. As Schultz's empire shows cracks, and he turns increasingly on his own colleagues, Billy realizes that closeness to the gangster is a dubious advantage.

Still, he manages to stay out of harm's way—until the arrival of Drew Preston in Schultz's entourage. The beautiful young woman has taken up with her lover's murderer without any apparent qualms of conscience. Billy, because he is only a boy, is considered a trusty escort for Drew when Schultz is occupied elsewhere. But Billy falls in love with her—and indeed *makes* love to her in a scene of powerful eroticism set in, of all places, a swamp—and so turns himself into his benefactor's betrayer.

The oedipal triangle between Billy, Drew and Schultz has enormous narrative promise. But instead of exploiting it to the full, Doctorow backs off the conflict before it takes form. Billy learns that the fickle Schultz wants to kill Drew because she was a witness to Bo's murder. So he cunningly arranges to have her whisked away by her rich homosexual husband, who does not seem to mind her sleeping around. Schultz is none the wiser, and Billy goes back to playing his faithful follower—right up to the climactic moment when Schultz and his gang are gunned down by rival mobsters.

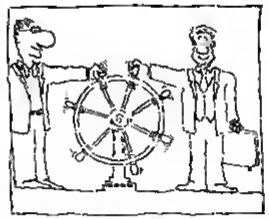
Doctorow's refusal to fully explore Billy's conflicting loyalties underlines the novel's astute avoidance of any deep feeling. It is a romantically compelling fable of surfaces, of the sheen of gunmetal, of the neighborhoods of New York City, of the look and feel of expensive cars and clothes. Nothing characterizes that quality better than Billy himself. He witnesses his first murder—and all the subsequent ones—with an odd lack of emotion. He does not feel so much as observe and calculate. At times, he seems less a boy than a stylized literary device whereby Doctorow can present his darkly exciting poetry of violence.

Billy's character may create a problem for readers who bear in mind, even as they enjoy the teenager's adventures, that society is being plagued by an upsurge of violent crime connected mainly to the drug trade. Such readers might well ask how Doctorow can so deliberately romanticize a life outside the law, and how he can pretend that a 15-year-old could thrive in his association with murderers.

The answer to those objections is that *Billy Bathgate* is intended as pure myth, a sort of Robin Hood for grown-ups. Other novels may be more psychologically subtle or emotionally resonant. But few of those celebrate, as well as *Billy Bathgate* does, the raw, sometimes amoral energy of life, so often feared by the timid and the primly virtuous. That is what Doctorow suggests in Billy's closing words of triumph. Billy reveals that he has had a happy, prosperous life—funded partly by Schultz's ill-gotten fortune, which he steals—and he gives thanks to God for "my life of crime and the terror of my existence." Something in human nature identifies with the outlaw and his rebellion against what is false and overbearing. *Billy Bathgate*, with its driving rhythms and hair-trigger images, is as bracing as a shot of Dutch Schultz's bootleg scotch.

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Just being alive

A new novel pursues life's elusive truth

CHARADES
By Janette Turner Hospital
(McClelland and Stewart, 304 pages, $24.95)

Oscar Wilde's words—"Truth is rarely pure and never simple"—could stand as an epigraph for Janette Turner Hospital's fourth novel, *Charades* a book that is as much mind-tease as story, as much about what did not happen as what did. Hospital has seemed on the verge of writing such a novel for some time. Ever since the Australian-born writer burst onto the Canadian literary scene with *The Ivory Swing*, which won the Seal first-novel award for 1982, her richly inventive, highly intuitive prose has strained to escape beyond the borders of ordinary perceptions and narrative style. Now, with the example of certain Latin American and European writers before her, Hospital has broken through into her own convoluted and fascinating fictional wonderland, where truth is something to pursue but never quite catch.



MARY ANN DONOHUE

Hospital: a heroine's struggle to sort out her past

Hospital's heroine, Charade Ryan, is a young footloose Australian woman whose global wanderings are driven by an intense desire to assemble the known fragments of her past into some kind of meaningful picture. Above all, she wants to find her father, Nicholas Truman, a philandering university lecturer from England who years earlier had a fling with Charade's mother, Bea. As the novel opens, Charade's search has brought her to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology—the Cambridge university where Hospital herself is currently in her fourth term as writer in residence. There, Charade has an affair with a brilliant professor of theoretical physics, Koenig. Most of the novel consists of their pillow talk as Charade, who seems to prefer conversation to making love, spins out various possible versions of her past to the bemused physicist.

There is something desperate about Charade. It soon becomes clear that she is a compulsive talker who must keep the words flowing in order to feel real. "If I stop talking," she tells Koenig, "I'll vanish like camphor." And for all her avowals that she is looking for the truth, there is something evasive in her monologues, too, as if perhaps the real truth about her life were something that she would rather avoid. She discovers it anyway at the end of the novel, she finally stumbles onto some traumatic revelations about her birth. And while the information may not be what she was looking for, at least it offers some clues as to why Charade is so driven and unhappy.

Charade's desperation lends the book an aura of feverish brilliance. And her intellectual curiosity allows Hospital to make the bravest and most complex use of scientific theory in a novel since John Updike's *Robert's Version*. In Koenig's explanations of his work, Charade finds a tenuous justification for the elusive, paradoxical quality that reality has for her. Koenig tells her how, in science, two researchers will often come up with contradictory yet mathematically demonstrable results. Such situations led Koenig to call the possibility of knowing anything for certain "a useful fraud."

Charades is a compendium of such frauds, some more useful—or entertaining—than others. Charade tells several highly contrasting versions of how she came to be. At times, she seems to disappear altogether while her story flows from the viewpoint of other characters, including her bawdy, lower-class mother—whom Charade labels "The Slut of the Tamborine Rain Forest"—and Bea's more reserved, scholarly girlfriend, Katherine Sussex. The two carry on a running rivalry over Nicholas, who in turn is hopelessly bound to a beautiful but highly neurotic Holocaust survivor. As the narrative moves through and around those characters, the effect is at once disorienting and exciting, rather like participating in a magic trick with a masterful magician.

Yet for all its sleight of hand, *Charades* is an uneven achievement. At times, Hospital's cleverness seems to be a smoke screen hiding an absence of anything important to say. Part of the problem is that Charade's exchanges with Koenig become a series of predictable gestures and attitudes. As well, Hospital, like her own heroine, frequently dances away from an anecdote before its narrative impact has been solidly established. Still, many incidents—particularly those evoking childhood—are as vibrant and compelling as the Australian landscape in which they are set. Katherine recalls how, one day on a school outing, she climbed a mountain by herself and experienced a moment of ecstasy. "She had a sense of herself as a solar whiteness," Hospital writes, "without shape, without limits in time or space, pulsing with a kind of exaltation whose only analogue might be the dramatic rush of wind at the rainy edge of a cyclone." It is in such passages, in such language, that *Charades* reaches beyond mere intellectual brilliance and touches something of the paradoxical quality of being alive.

JOHN BEMROSE

MACLEAN'S BEST-SELLER LIST

FICTION

1 **The Sands of Time,** *Sheldon (1)*
2 **Cat's Eye,** *Atwood (2)*
3 **The Lyre of Orpheus,** *Davies (4)*
4 **Star,** *Steele (3)*
5 **Journey,** *Michener (5)*
6 **The Edge,** *Francis (6)*
7 **Mila Pass,** *Uris (10)*
8 **The Long Dark Teatime of the Soul,** *Adams (9)*
9 **Spy Hook,** *Deighton (7)*
10 **The Satanic Verses,** *Rushdie (8)*

NONFICTION

1 **A Brief History of Time,** *Hawking (1)*
2 **The Arctic Grail,** *Berton (2)*
3 **Grace,** *Burns (3)*
4 **Stress for Success,** *Hanson (6)*
5 **Blind Faith,** *McGinniss (7)*
6 **The Struggle for Democracy,** *Watson and Barber (4)*
7 **Canadian Living Microwave Cookbook,** *Fraser (5)*
8 **The Last Lion, Winston Spencer Churchill: Alone, 1932-1940,** *Manchester (6)*
9 **The Private Voice,** *Cameron (10)*
10 **Child Star,** *Black (9)*

() Position last week

Compiled by Sandra McGregor



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COLUMN



Ducking the Rushdie challenge

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

As a card-carrying nationalist, it is very hard to embarrass this humble scribbler about my own country. I mean, I rank right up there with Margaret Atwood and Jack McClelland and Walter Gordon and Mel Hurtig in beating the breast and brandishing the Maple Leaf. The nincompoops in Ottawa, however, the quivering, quavering people in charge, have done it in the Salman Rushdie caper.

Once outside these borders, I will even stand up at a bar and defend Harold Ballard, as unsettling to the stomach as that task may be. I thank the gods in their feminine wisdom that this faithful Canuck was not abroad recently and had to explain why Canada in the world view proved to be so craven, so bush, so fourth-class.

While global outrage was mounting at the mad mullah in Iran and his death sentence on the embattled author in Britain, what was Ottawa doing? What Ottawa was doing was revealing to the world that semiliterate gumshoes in Revenue Canada, of all places, were the government-approved arbiters of what Canadians are allowed to read. For one incredible weekend the duly elected government of this country waited while some cipher who is an expert on customs regulations read *The Satanic Verses* and determined for all Canadians whether this dangerous package of words could be further allowed into this supposedly civilized country, although it had long been sitting in bookstores, having been published six months ago. It was right out of Gilbert and Sullivan.

That celebrated duo would have loved the dunderheads in our current government, who are heavy on bean-counting but seem lost once they get past the decimal point. While the rest of the world unites in its outrage and pulls diplomats from Tehran, Canada waits for the lip-readers in Revenue to decide our tastes. One would like to laugh if one were not crying—for a country humiliated.

As the puzzled editorial writers of *The New York Times* have pointed out, in some countries—France and West Germany—publishers have backed off but in Canada the actual government considered using trade laws to ban the Rushdie piece of fiction. As journalist Richard Gwyn pointed out in a dispatch from New Delhi, the news of a ban by nervous, despicable Ottawa was great news and great publicity for the fanatic Moslem forces. Here was proof! Here was ammunition! Even sane dull, ponderous Canada was perturbed and doubtful about this dangerous book.



ROY PETERSON

Churchill once said that the real test of any nation is how it treats those who are in prison. True. And another good test is its sensitivity to such matters as censorship. What the goofs in Ottawa don't realize is the sudden "fame" this obscure country achieved in one weekend in the world press—Canada, of all places, had aligned itself with such countries as South Africa and Bangladesh as going catatonic over Rushdie's novel and hinting it was as one with the book-burners who have always been with us and unfortunately always will be here.

This Tory government has now been given two consecutive majority terms by the Canadian public. Brian Mulroney has rightly been given credit for that. He can do anything he wants with that majority in the Commons. He can do anything he wants, with this new mandate, on his own.

He can, for instance, stand on his hind legs next week and announce that Canada, this great democratic institution, cannot withstand further embarrassment such as accidentally (we will allow the usual obfuscation) happened over the Rushdie novel. Henceforth, he could announce and pronounce, the ability of the intellectual giants in Otto Jelinek's revenue department to determine our tastes will be abolished. Legislation to that effect will shortly be introduced in Parliament.

The Prime Minister of all he surveys makes suchlike statements most every week. The environment will be cleansed. The tax system will be reformed. The deficit will be reduced. The Prince Edward Island causeway will be built. The problems at the Toronto airport will be eliminated. Legislation to that effect will shortly be introduced in Parliament.

But those are all dollar items. It's easy to make brave pronouncements on dollar items. The public can't keep track of dollars, especially when they go past six zeros. Politicians know this. Senator Everett Dirksen, an American icon, once said, "A billion here and a billion there and pretty soon you're talking about real money."

What takes a little more courage—which Brian Mulroney would like to be known for—is to stand up and be counted for a cause. Pierre Trudeau is remembered for saying that the state has no business in the bedrooms of the nation. Why can't Brian Mulroney stand up next week and announce he had unfortunately inherited a disgraceful situation from the Liberals (it's their fault!) wherein mumblers from Revenue Canada to his great surprise were the censors on what Canadians could read and he, on being apprised of this disgusting fact, had determined to put it to an end and legislation would be shortly introduced in Parliament?

He could do it. He could do it tomorrow. Or he could leave his wobbling external affairs minister, one Joe Clark, just back from being battered in Harare with the revelation that our trade with South Africa is increasing and the venal bloodsuckers of the Canadian banking system are laundering their South Africa loans through Luxembourg to justify our Rushdie caper.

Or we could continue to delight Gilbert and Sullivan.



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